

Nov. 21, 2019

Senator Maggie Hassan
324 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20510

Senator Susan Collins
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20510

Dear Senator Hassan and Senator Collins:

I am writing on behalf of Vizient, Inc. to offer our support for S. 2892, the Opioid Workforce Act of 2019. This important bipartisan legislation will provide essential opportunities for medical education and training for the next generation of physicians helping to combat our nation's opioid abuse crisis.

Vizient, Inc. provides solutions and services that improve the delivery of high-value care by aligning cost, quality and market performance for more than 50% of the nation's acute care providers, which includes 95% of the nation's academic medical centers, and more than 20% of ambulatory providers. Vizient provides expertise, analytics and advisory services, as well as a contract portfolio that represents more than \$100 billion in annual purchasing volume, to improve patient outcomes and lower costs. Headquartered in Irving, Texas, Vizient has offices throughout the United States.

Vizient members are on the front lines of both training physicians in addiction medicine and psychiatry and caring for patients who struggle with addiction. As our nation grapples with the multitude of difficulties associated with the opioid crisis, your important legislation recognizes that addressing this challenge is going to require a significant increase in the number of clinicians equipped with specialized training to treat patients with opioid use disorders. Your bill would provide for an additional 1,000 Medicare supported direct graduate medical education and indirect medical education slots for teaching hospitals that have, or are in the process of establishing, residency programs in addiction medicine, addiction psychiatry or pain medicine.

Addressing our nation's looming shortage of medical professionals is a pressing crisis, which is compounded by the new challenges faced by the nation in finding clinical options to mitigate the effects of the opioid crisis. Your bipartisan legislation offers a meaningful investment in addressing these challenges. Vizient is pleased to strongly support your legislation and urges its quick adoption.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at shoshana.krilow@vizientinc.com or 202-354-2607 if you have any questions about Vizient or if there is any way we can be of assistance in supporting this legislation.

Sincerely,



Shoshana Krilow
Vice President, Public Policy & Government Relations

Nov. 21, 2019

Rep. Brad Schneider
1432 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Ann McLane Kuster
320 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Susan Brooks
2211 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Rep. Elise Stefanik
318 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Schneider, Brooks, Kuster and Stefanik:

I am writing on behalf of Vizient, Inc. to offer our support for H.R. 3414, the Opioid Workforce Act of 2019. This important bipartisan legislation will provide essential opportunities for medical education and training for the next generation of physicians helping to combat our nation's opioid abuse crisis.

Vizient, Inc. provides solutions and services that improve the delivery of high-value care by aligning cost, quality and market performance for more than 50% of the nation's acute care providers, which includes 95% of the nation's academic medical centers, and more than 20% of ambulatory providers. Vizient provides expertise, analytics and advisory services, as well as a contract portfolio that represents more than \$100 billion in annual purchasing volume, to improve patient outcomes and lower costs. Headquartered in Irving, Texas, Vizient has offices throughout the United States.

Vizient members are on the front lines of both training physicians in addiction medicine and psychiatry and caring for patients who struggle with addiction. As our nation grapples with the multitude of difficulties associated with the opioid crisis, your important legislation recognizes that addressing this challenge is going to require a significant increase in the number of clinicians equipped with specialized training to treat patients with opioid use disorders. Your bill would provide for an additional 1,000 Medicare supported direct graduate medical education and indirect medical education slots for teaching hospitals that have, or are in the process of establishing, residency programs in addiction medicine, addiction psychiatry or pain medicine.

Addressing our nation's looming shortage of medical professionals is a pressing crisis, which is compounded by the new challenges faced by the nation in finding clinical options to mitigate the effects of the opioid crisis. Your bipartisan legislation offers a meaningful investment in addressing these challenges. Vizient is pleased to strongly support your legislation and urges its quick adoption.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at shoshana.krilow@vizientinc.com or 202-354-2607 if you have any questions about Vizient or if there is any way we can be of assistance in supporting this legislation.

Sincerely,



Shoshana Krilow
Vice President, Public Policy & Government Relations