

February 8, 2019

Senator Charles Schumer
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20510

Senator Robert Menendez
528 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20510

Senator John Boozman
141 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C., 20510

Dear Senators Schumer, Menendez and Boozman:

I am writing on behalf of Vizient, Inc. to offer our support for the Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act of 2019. This important bipartisan legislation will expand opportunities for medical education and training to support the next generation of physicians.

Vizient is the nation's largest health care performance improvement company. We serve a diverse membership that includes academic medical centers, pediatric facilities, community hospitals, integrated healthcare delivery networks and non-acute health care providers. Our headquarters are in Irving, Texas, with locations in Chicago, Washington, D.C., and other cities across the country.

Vizient works with roughly 95 percent of the nation's academic medical centers to deliver value and use data-driven insights to improve care. All of our academic medical center members share a mission-driven commitment to providing opportunities for medical education to help cultivate tomorrow's medical leaders. We applaud your legislation, which takes the needed steps to expand those opportunities by increasing the number of Medicare Graduate Medical Education residency slots available by 3,000 a year, over a five year period – totaling 15,000 new residency slots by 2025. Vizient appreciates that this bill ensures that a portion of the new slots be used to train residents in a shortage specialty residency program.

On behalf of our members, we applaud this bipartisan legislation that takes a common sense approach to investing in the training of medical doctors, and helps preserve the nation's commitment to ensuring that highly skilled physicians will always be available to deliver care to patients – wherever it is needed. Vizient thanks you for your commitment to alleviating the physician shortage and ensuring patients will have access to care, and is pleased to offer our endorsement for the Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act of 2019.

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