

May 28, 2021

The Honorable Brad Schneider
U.S. House of Representatives
300 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David McKinley
U.S. House of Representatives
2239 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ann Kuster
U.S. House of Representatives
320 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Schneider, McKinley, and Kuster:

On behalf of the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM), I offer strong support for H.R. 3441, the *Substance Use Disorder Workforce Act of 2021*. As educators of future physicians, we support policies to address the physician workforce shortage and increase access to care for patients with substance use disorders.

AACOM leads and advocates for the full continuum of osteopathic medical education to improve the health of the public. Founded in 1898 to support and assist the nation's osteopathic medical schools, AACOM represents all 37 accredited colleges of osteopathic medicine—educating nearly 31,000 future physicians, 25 percent of all U.S. medical students—at 58 teaching locations in 33 U.S. states, as well as osteopathic graduate medical education professionals and trainees at U.S. medical centers, hospitals, clinics, and health systems.

AACOM lauds your efforts to expand the physician workforce trained in substance use disorder recovery and prevention. The *Substance Use Disorder Workforce Act of 2021* would create 1,000 new Medicare-supported residency positions over five years at hospitals that have, or are in the process of establishing, approved residency programs in addiction medicine, addiction psychiatry, or pain management. H.R. 3441 is critical to increase access to patient care and ensure that additional residency positions are available for medical school graduates who are committed to working in addiction medicine and pain management.

We look forward to working with you to advance H.R. 3441. For questions or for further information please contact David Bergman, JD, Vice President of Government Relations, at dbergman@aacom.org.

Respectfully,



Robert A. Cain, DO, FACOI, FAODME
President and CEO