

Below is a sample email to send to your two Senators and Representative on the Dear Colleague letters ACPM is working with Congressional offices on advancing. This is just a template – feel free to use your own words in your email. State-based information on residency programs and training slots can be [found here](#).

Request for Dear Colleague Signatories

Dear Rep./Sen. XXX,

I am a preventive medicine physician/resident from (city, state), and I ask that you sign the Dear Colleague letter circulated by Representative Green and Senator Udall requesting an allocation of \$11.136 million in FY 2019 to the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to maintain funding for preventive medicine residency training programs.

Unfortunately, preventive medicine residents do not qualify for Medicare graduate medical education (GME) payments as they do not train in the traditional teaching hospital environment. Preventive medicine physicians train in community settings where they advance population health by implementing disease prevention and health promotion programs that address the social determinants of health. These physicians are at the forefront of addressing the opioid epidemic, natural disaster relief, infectious diseases like Zika and the flu, and chronic diseases. Preventive medicine residency program directors recently reported the highest number of applications ever recorded. Unfortunately, they are unable to tap into this increased interest without the additional resources required to cover residency training costs. In (state), only (#) out of (#) training slots were able to be filled because of lack of funding. The patients and populations served by the specialty of Preventive Medicine need your help.

I also ask that you sign the Dear Colleague letter circulated by Rep. Quigley and Senator Blumenthal to fund the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) at \$23.5 million to expand funding to all fifty states and the District of Columbia. Currently only 42 states receive funding, and another two states have successfully applied for grants but received no money due to insufficient funding. NVDRS is an integral part of the long-term success of local efforts to better understand and reduce violent deaths in our communities.

Sincerely,