

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 3, 2017

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Chairman, Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, Education
and Related Agencies
Dirksen, Room 135
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, Education
and Related Agencies
Dirksen, Room 156
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Blunt and Ranking Member Murray,

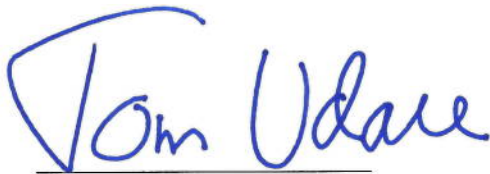
We urge your consideration of our \$12 million request for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to maintain training opportunities for preventive medicine physicians in the FY 2018 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

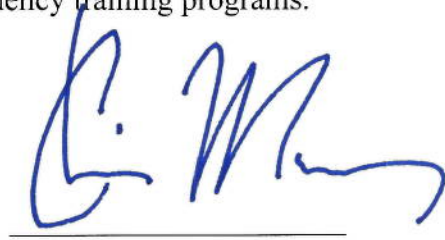
Preventive medicine residency training programs provide a blueprint on how to train our future physician workforce. These physicians are trained to provide for individual patient care needs as well as practice at the community and population level to identify and treat the social determinants of health. Preventive medicine physicians are experts in disease prevention, health promotion, disaster preparedness, quality improvement and patient safety, and lead efforts to integrate primary care and public health. Many preventive medicine physicians have been called upon to ensure the safety of communities most at risk for the Zika virus outbreak.

Since preventive medicine residents train in community-based settings rather than in the traditional teaching hospital, Medicare and Medicaid do not support the cost of their graduate medical education (GME). HRSA is the source of this support, but has been able to fund only 25 of the 74 ACGME-accredited programs based on past appropriations.

Thank you for your consideration of this request to support the training of medical professionals who dedicate their careers to disease prevention and health promotion by providing \$12 million in FY 2018 funding to HRSA for preventive medicine residency training programs.

Sincerely,


Tom Udare


P. Murray


Tom Udare


P. Murray

Kirsten Gillibrand

J. A. B.

Jeanne Shaheen

Mary F. Cant

Richard Blumenthal

Debbie Stabenow

Edward J. Markey

Al Franken

Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

Maxine Hironaka

Whit

Chen Van Hollen

Brian Schatz

Jeffrey A. Meehan

Elizabeth Warren

Amy Klobuchar

Dianne Feinstein