

American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians®
Society of Interventional Pain Management Surgery Centers Inc.
"The Voice of Interventional Pain Management"

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May 6, 2020

Senator Rand Paul
167 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC, 20510
Zach_Bennett@paul.senate.gov

RE: Bipartisan bill addressing shortage of doctors and nurses

Dear Honorable Dr. Rand Paul:

On behalf of the American Society of Interventional Pain Physicians (ASIPP), 50 state societies of interventional pain physicians, Society of Interventional Pain Management Surgery Centers (SIPMS), interventional pain management centers and pain physicians across the country, more importantly, millions of chronic pain patients, and finally the entire physician community and American public, we would like to thank you for all the help in the Senate in providing and supporting the Administration in these hard times during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Recently, in a press conference, a group of bipartisan senators, Senators Dick Durbin, David Perdue, Todd Young, and Chris Coons announced that they will introduce a bipartisan legislation, the "Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act." This legislation is greatly needed to provide a temporary stopgap to quickly address our nation's shortage of doctors, which poses a significant risk to our ability to effectively respond to the COVID-19 crisis.

We ask for your support for the crucial Senate bill, "Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act," which would recapture a limited number of unused visas from prior years and allocate them to doctors and nurses. This legislation is targeted and timely and will strengthen our health care workforce and improve health care access for Americans amid the COVID-19 epidemic.

ASIPP is a not-for-profit professional organization founded in 1998 now comprising over 4,500 interventional pain physicians and other practitioners who are dedicated to ensuring safe, appropriate and equal access to essential pain management services for patients across the country suffering with chronic and acute pain. There are approximately 8,500 appropriately trained and qualified physicians practicing interventional pain management in the United States. ASIPP is comprised of 50 affiliated state societies, and the Puerto Rico Society of Interventional Pain Physicians.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Thank you,