

LEGISLATION WE SUPPORT

SAFETY FROM VIOLENCE FOR HEALTHCARE EMPLOYEES (SAVE) ACT

No healthcare worker should worry for their life while trying to save the lives of others. To strengthen protections for healthcare workers, the SAVE Act would:

- Subject anyone who knowingly assaults a hospital employee or contractor and interferes with the performance of their duties to fines and up to 10 years imprisonment (or a maximum of 20 years should the attacker use a deadly or dangerous weapon, inflict serious bodily injury, or commit an attack during a public health emergency), and
- Boost the capacity of hospitals to enhance security systems and procedures and more effectively coordinate with law enforcement by establishing a grant program

HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE RESILIENCE ACT (HWRA)

To address the significant shortages plaguing our nation's healthcare system, the US must create immigration pathways for qualified foreign healthcare professionals to live and work in the United States permanently. The HWRA would do this by:

- Recapturing 25,000 unused immigrant visas for nurses and 15,000 unused immigrant visas for physicians that Congress has previously authorized, as well as recaptured visas for immediate family members,
- Requiring employers to attest that immigrants from overseas who receive these visas will not displace an American worker, and
- Requiring eligible immigrant medical professionals to meet licensing requirements, pay filing fees, and clear rigorous national security and criminal background checks before they can receive recaptured green cards.

REAUTHORIZATION OF THE DR. LORNA BREEN HEALTH CARE PROVIDER PROTECTION ACT (S. 266/H.R. 929)

Named after an emergency physician who died by suicide in 2020 at the peak of the first COVID-19 outbreak, the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act has been instrumental in providing mental health resources and support programs for healthcare providers since it was enacted in 2022. Its reauthorization would:

- Continue and expand grants to other hospitals and over 200,000 other types of healthcare settings so they can implement evidence-informed strategies to reduce and prevent suicide, burnout, mental health conditions, and substance use disorders,
- Continue and expand the Impact Wellbeing campaign, which works to provide hospital leaders with proven strategies to reduce health worker burnout and sustain well-being

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