



Charles N. Kahn III
President and CEO

May 24, 2018

The Honorable Bill Nelson
United States Senate
716 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dean Heller
United States Senate
324 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Nelson and Heller:

On behalf of the Federation of American Hospitals (FAH), I am pleased to offer our support for S. 2843, *The Opioid Workforce Act of 2018*.

The Federation of American Hospitals is the national representative of more than 1,000 investor-owned or managed community hospitals and health systems throughout the United States. Our members include hospitals in urban and rural America, as well as inpatient rehabilitation, psychiatric, long-term acute care, and cancer hospitals.

Hospitals across the nation are on the frontlines of responding to the nation's opioid epidemic. *The Opioid Workforce Act of 2018* proposes the addition of 1,000 Medicare-supported graduate medical education (GME) positions over the next five years to hospitals that have established or are establishing substance use disorder (SUD) treatment and prevention programs. Expanding and funding residency slots for this purpose will help ensure that tomorrow's physicians are fully equipped with the training and skills necessary in addiction medicine, addiction psychiatry, or pain management. This important legislation also brings us one step closer to addressing the nation's looming shortage of physicians, which is estimated to range from 42,000 to 120,000 by 2030, according to the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC).

We commend you for your bipartisan leadership and unyielding commitment to combating our nation's opioid crisis. The FAH looks forward to working with you and your colleagues to ensure the passage of *The Opioid Workforce Act of 2018*.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Charles N. Kahn III".