

# American Association of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry

June 20, 2023

The Honorable Brett Guthrie  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Health  
Committee on Energy & Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Anna Eshoo  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Health  
Committee on Energy & Commerce  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Guthrie and Ranking Member Eshoo:

On behalf of the American Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) and the over 10,000 child and adolescent psychiatrists, fellows, residents, and medical students that we represent, I am writing in response to the Subcommittee's hearing titled, "Examining Proposals that Provide Access to Care for Patients and Support Research for Rare Diseases" and the Subcommittee's expressed plans at the hearing to advance legislation, particularly H.R. 3887, the *Children's Hospital GME Support Reauthorization Act of 2023*.

While AACAP is appreciative of the Committee's interest in promptly addressing the reauthorization of the Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education (CHGME) program, the only federal program focused exclusively on the training of pediatricians and pediatric specialists, we are concerned the Subcommittee has advocated to advance reauthorization legislation that would restrict the availability of CHGME funding to children's hospitals for physician training based on the specific type of care provided at an individual hospital, as would be required by H.R. 3887.

CHGME is critical to ensuring that America's children, including children in military families and those who live in rural and underserved areas, receive the care that they need and deserve. CHGME has always received bipartisan support, and we hope that same support continues this year. AACAP urges the Subcommittee to instead move promptly to advance H.R. 3841, introduced by Rep. Kim Schrier, MD, which would allow for a five-year reauthorization of CHGME without restricting care and services that hospitals provide.

Children's hospitals train the pediatric workforce – they are responsible for training the next generation of pediatricians and pediatric specialists. The 59 children's teaching hospitals that receive CHGME support and train more than half of all pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists, including child and adolescent psychiatrists, pediatric oncologists, and pediatric cardiologists. In fact, approximately 40% of child and adolescent psychiatrists train at CHGME hospitals.

CHGME is critical to providing access to care to America's children. AACAP urges the Committee promptly to advance Rep. Schrier's legislation, H.R. 3841, to reauthorize CHGME,

without imposing restrictions on the care and services provided by the hospitals that receive such funding.

Should you have any questions, please contact Alexis Geier-Horan, Chief of Advocacy and Practice Transformation at [ahoran@aacap.org](mailto:ahoran@aacap.org) and Ben Melano, Deputy Director of Federal Affairs at [bmelano@aacap.org](mailto:bmelano@aacap.org).

Respectfully,

Warren Y. K. Ng, MD  
President

Cc:

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers, Chair, House Energy & Commerce Committee  
The Honorable Frank Pallone, Ranking Member, House Energy & Commerce Committee  
The Honorable Nanette Barragán, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Gus Bilirakis, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Lisa Blunt Rochester, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Larry Bucshon, MD, Vice Chair, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Michael Burgess, MD, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Tony Cárdenas, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Buddy Carter, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Angie Craig, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Dan Crenshaw, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Debbie Dingell, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Neal Dunn, MD, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Morgan Griffith, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Diana Harshbarger, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Richard Hudson, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Bill Johnson, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable John Joyce, MD, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Robin Kelly, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Bob Latta, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Mariannette Miller-Meeks, MD, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Jay Obernolte, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Greg Pence, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Raul Ruiz, MD, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable John Sarbanes, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Kim Schrier, MD, Member, Subcommittee on Health  
The Honorable Lori Trahan, Member, Subcommittee on Health