



February 14, 2024

The Honorable Chairman Brett Guthrie
House Energy and Commerce Committee
Health Subcommittee
2434 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ranking Member Anna Eshoo
House Energy and Commerce Committee
Health Subcommittee
272 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Re: Energy and Commerce Committee, Subcommittee on Health, hearing entitled “Legislative Proposals to Support Patients and Caregivers.”

Dear Representatives Guthrie and Eshoo:

Thank you for holding a hearing on legislative proposals to support patients and their caregivers, and in particular the Reauthorization of the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act (H.R. 7153). We appreciate the Committee’s attention to patient and caregiver issues, and this impactful legislation aimed at supporting the mental health and well-being of the healthcare workforce. The American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP) is the collective voice of pharmacists who serve as patient care providers in hospitals, health systems, ambulatory clinics, and other healthcare settings spanning the full spectrum of medication use. The organization’s more than 60,000 members include pharmacists, student pharmacists, and pharmacy technicians.

ASHP has been addressing workforce well-being within our organization and the profession of pharmacy for decades. Our commitment is embedded within ASHP’s strategic plan, vision statements, policy positions, standards, resources, and programming. Consistent with this commitment, we urge reauthorization of the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act in 2024 to sustain its impact since its initial passage in 2022. Thanks to that legislation, ASHP is one of 44 organizations selected to receive funding from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA). Through the HRSA Health and Public Safety Workforce Resiliency Training grant, we have reached over 4,300 pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, pharmacy residents, and student pharmacists in a curriculum-based, virtual learning community that aims to empower local action to mitigate occupational burnout and create cultures of well-being in healthcare organizations.

ASHP thanks you for taking action to protect the mental health and well-being of the healthcare workforce. We look forward to continuing to work with you on this issue. If you have questions or if ASHP can assist in any way, please contact Frank Kolb at fkolb@ashp.org.

Sincerely,

Tom Kraus
American Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Vice President, Government Relations