



February 14, 2024

The Honorable Tim Kaine
231 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Todd Young
185 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: ASHP support to reauthorize the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act (S.3679).

Dear Senators Kaine and Young:

Thank you for your role in introducing the reauthorization of the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act (S.3679). We applaud your efforts to acknowledge the critical role of the healthcare workforce in protecting patient and public health and to advance initiatives that support healthcare workforce mental health and well-being. 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. For more than 80 years, ASHP has been at the forefront of efforts to improve medication use and enhance patient safety.

Unfortunately, the pharmacy workforce, like the rest of the healthcare workforce, is experiencing alarming rates of occupational burnout, moral injury, and stress. 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 support reauthorization of the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act in 2024 in order 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