



Senators Introduce Medical Student Loan Relief Parity for California and Texas Physicians

Children, Underserved Communities to Benefit the Most

The California Medical Association and the Texas Medical Association express our strong appreciation to Senators Dianne Feinstein (D-CA), John Cornyn (R-TX), and Kamala Harris (D-CA) for introducing the “Stopping Doctor Shortages Act” in the U.S. Senate. It would clarify the federal Public Service Loan Forgiveness Program that inadvertently excluded many California and Texas physicians from education loan forgiveness because of our state laws.

This important legislation will address physician shortages in California and Texas and improve access to care, particularly in children’s hospitals and community hospitals in underserved communities. It ensures that California and Texas physicians working in non-profit community hospitals can obtain the same loan forgiveness afforded to physicians in the other 48 states.

California and Texas are both experiencing physician shortages. During the COVID-19 pandemic, we need physicians more than ever to provide critical care to patients on the front lines. This legislation helps doctors continue to serve where they are needed the most.

The American Association of Medical Colleges reports that students graduate from medical school with a median debt of \$200,000,