

February 25, 2022

The Honorable Jacky Rosen
U.S. Senate
713 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable John Boozman
U.S. Senate
141 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Rosen and Boozman:

On behalf of our organizations, we thank you for introducing the “Resident Education Deferred Interest (REDI) Act” (S 3658) that, if passed, will allow borrowers to qualify for interest-free deferment on their student loans while serving in a medical or dental internship or residency program.

As you are aware, the cost of graduate-level medical and dental education is substantial for the vast majority of students. Further, those who undertake several years of residency with very low pay are often unable to begin repaying student debt immediately. As a result, they qualify to have their payments halted during residency through deferment or forbearance processes, but they continue to accrue interest that is added to their balance.

Passage of the REDI Act is an important part of student loan repayment reform. This bill would prevent medical and dental residents from being penalized during residency and save them thousands of dollars in interest. Providing interest accrual relief during residency also would make the concepts of opening practices in underserved areas or entering faculty or research more attractive and affordable to residents.

Thank you again for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Academy of General Dentistry
American Academy of Dermatology Association
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Neurology
American Academy of Ophthalmology
American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
American Academy of Periodontology
American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research
American Association of Endodontists
American Association of Neurological Surgeons/
Congress of Neurological Surgeons
American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons
American Association of Orthodontists
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons
American College of Emergency Physicians

American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists
American College of Physicians
American College of Prosthodontists
American College of Radiology
American College of Rheumatology
American Dental Association
American Dental Education Association
American Osteopathic Association
American Psychiatric Association
American Society for Radiation Oncology
American Society of Anesthesiologists
American Society of Dentist Anesthesiologists
American Student Dental Association
American Urological Association
Diverse Dental Society
Hispanic Dental Association
National Dental Association
Renal Physicians Association
Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions
Society of Interventional Radiology
The American Society of Breast Surgeons
The Society of Thoracic Surgeons