April 16, 2024

The Honorable Senator John Kennedy U.S.

The Honorable Eric Schmitt

importance of recruitment and retention of physicians of underrepresented backgrounds. Therefore, policies<sup>7</sup> that address disparities and discrimination, and the physician workforce are a key component to a comprehensive and overarching approach to eliminating disparities in health and healthcare.

To further nurture and grow a diverse physician pathway, medical schools must undertake efforts to eliminate the barriers that prevent underrepresented students from attending and completing medical school. Education quality and access must be equitable for those of all backgrounds to ensure a diverse medical professional pathway; it also must provide the health care workforce with the necessary knowledge and skills to care for people of all backgrounds and in all corners of our country.