

**President**

Danielle Scheurer, MD, MSRC, SFHM  
Charleston, South Carolina

April 1, 2021

The Honorable Dick Durbin  
United States Senate  
711 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable John Cornyn  
United States Senate  
517 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**President-Elect**

Jerome C. Siy, MD, SFHM  
Bloomington, Minnesota

**Treasurer**

Rachel Thompson, MD, MPH, SFHM  
Omaha, Nebraska

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
United States Senate  
437 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

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

**Secretary**

Kris Rehm, MD, SFHM  
Nashville, Tennessee

The Honorable Chris Coons  
United States Senate  
218 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins  
United States Senate  
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**Immediate Past President**

Christopher Frost, MD, SFHM  
Franklin, Tennessee

Dear Senators Durbin, Cornyn, Leahy, Young, Coons, and Collins,

**Board of Directors**

Tracy Cardin, ACNP-BC, SFHM  
Oak Park, Illinois

The Society of Hospital Medicine (SHM), representing the nation's hospitalists, is pleased to support the reintroduction of the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act (S.1024). This bipartisan legislation will recapture 40,000 unused employment-based visas and use them to expedite processing for immigrant doctors and nurses. Converting these visas will alleviate health care staffing shortages and ensure patients across the country have access to high-quality medical care.

Steven B. Deitelzweig, MD, MMM, FACC, SFHM  
New Orleans, Louisiana

Bryce Gartland, MD, FHM  
Atlanta, Georgia

Hospitalists focus on the general medical care of hospitalized patients in America's acute care hospitals. As a result, our members are on the frontlines of the COVID-19 pandemic caring for patients each day. Many hospitalists are highly trained immigrant physicians who are essential members of the hospital medicine team. Their skills, expertise, and compassion are needed throughout the country to continue the fight against COVID-19 and ensure communities maintain access to lifesaving care.

Flora Kisuule, MD, MPH, SFHM  
Baltimore, Maryland

Mark W. Shen, MD, SFHM  
Austin, TX

Darlene Tad-y, MD, SFHM  
Aurora, Colorado

Chad T. Whelan, MD, FACP, FHM  
Tucson, Arizona

In light of COVID-19 and to begin to address the pre-existing shortage of physicians nationwide, we must utilize all tools necessary to expand the healthcare provider workforce. This legislation will ensure visas for medical workers are processed in a timely manner, alleviate some of the green card backlog for physicians and nurses, and ultimately expand the available healthcare workforce. Importantly, this legislation will also protect families by allowing spouses and children to join healthcare workers in the United States.

**Chief Executive Officer**

Eric E. Howell, MD, MHM



As the United States continues to face unprecedented challenges from COVID-19, this legislation will help alleviate unnecessary obstacles that are preventing highly trained hospitalists from engaging in the fight against COVID-19 and helping the nation recover. SHM is pleased to offer our support of the reintroduction of the Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act and stands ready to support its passage. Thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Danielle Scheurer MD". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Danielle Scheurer, MD, MSCR, SFHM  
President, Society of Hospital Medicine