

## **SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS**

Dr. Lorna Breen Heroes' Foundation  
ALL IN: Wellbeing First For Healthcare  
Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science® and the School of Communication and Journalism at Stony Brook University.  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine  
American College of Emergency Physicians  
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention  
American Hospital Association  
American Medical Association  
American Nurses Association  
American Psychiatric Association  
American Society of Health-System Pharmacists  
Ballad Health  
Bon Secours Virginia  
Carilion Clinic  
CHARM  
CIMA Mennonite Hospital and Mennonite Health System  
Community Health Center of the New River Valley  
Emergency Nurses Association  
Emory University's Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing  
FIGS  
George Mason University  
GPW Health Center  
Horizon Health Services  
Inova  
Johnson & Johnson  
La Casa de Salud  
Lifepoint Health  
Medical Society of Virginia  
Medicine Forward  
National Medical Association  
Nationwide Children's Hospital  
Ochsner Health  
Organizational Wellbeing Solutions  
Shenandoah Community Health  
The Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare  
UVA Health  
Valley Health  
VCU Health System  
Virginia Community Healthcare Association  
Virginia Hospital and Healthcare Association  
Virginia Nurses Association

## ENDORISING QUOTES

“We are profoundly grateful to Senator Kaine and all supporting organizations for their unwavering commitment to the mental health and well-being of our healthcare workforce,” **said Corey Feist, JD, MBA, co-founder and CEO of the Dr. Lorna Breen Heroes’ Foundation.** “This landmark legislation, honoring the legacy of my sister-in-law, is a critical lifeline for health workers, offering support to address the mental health challenges they face and improving how our healthcare system operates so it no longer puts an immense strain on their well-being. It is vital that we reauthorize and increase funding of the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act. It’s not just a matter of policy—it’s a critical piece of legislation for our healthcare delivery supply chain that benefits every health worker, every patient, every caregiver, and every person that will require medical care in their lifetime.”

“Elevating the issue of health care provider and clinician physical and mental wellness is critically important to community and public health. Health care providers are people with lives and challenges, just like everyone else. They also happen to be the people patients and families count on in their hour of medical need,” **said Virginia Hospital & Healthcare Association President and CEO Sean T. Connaughton.** “Reauthorizing the *Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act* will help ensure there are resources in place to support health care professionals so they can continue to care for patients. Given our ongoing focus on provider wellness, the hospital community enthusiastically supports this bipartisan legislation from Senator Kaine and Representative Kiggans and we urge Congress to act swiftly on it.”

“Our community needs healthcare providers to care for us and our loved ones. In doing this necessary work, our healthcare teams are facing a mental health and burnout crisis, leading many to leave the field of medicine. This hurts every community! The *Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act* is a key piece to changing the landscape of mental health and well-being for our healthcare professionals. The Medical Society of Virginia (MSV) and SafeHaven support this Act and will continue to advocate for change alongside the Dr. Lorna Breen Heroes’ Foundation,” **said MSV CEO, Melina Davis.**

“The pandemic has pushed our primary care workforce to the brink of exhaustion, with most reporting significant levels of burnout. The mental health care of these precious resources is vital. Shenandoah Community Health strongly supports this bill,” **said Michael Hassing, CEO, Shenandoah Community Health.**

“As health care providers we are present at some of life’s best moments; the birth of a child, a biopsy that returns showing that it’s not cancer. At the same time, we are present at some of life’s most devastating too. It’s impossible to avoid absorbing some of the tragedy we see play out in our patients’ lives. I am so grateful this issue is recognized and addressed by the *Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act*. It provides a blueprint to mitigate and address the mental health crisis in our profession,” **said Dr. David Roberts, Chief Medical Officer, Community Health Center of the New River Valley.**

“*The Dr. Lorna Breen Healthcare Provider Protection Act* addresses one of Inova’s most important priorities – the health and well-being of our 24,000 team members and all healthcare providers in Virginia. Ensuring every healthcare provider can practice in a psychologically safe environment where they feel supported in times of stress, burnout, and crisis is both a moral imperative and a health workforce necessity. This reauthorization will ensure that Dr. Breen’s memory will endure in the many lives that are saved in years to come, and we are grateful for Senator Kaine and Congresswoman Kiggans for their leadership,” **said J. Stephen Jones, MD, President and CEO, Inova.**

“Bon Secours is proud to stand with Senator Kaine in support of this effort to keep our health care providers safe and healthy, and to ensure that they receive the same quality care that they deliver to our patients and communities each and every day,” **said Pat Davis-Hagens, Market President, Bon Secours – Hampton Roads, and Mike Lutes, Market President, Bon Secours – Richmond.**

“Senator Kaine’s leadership in reauthorizing the *Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act* will improve the lives of healthcare workers across the state, particularly in rural and underserved areas. By introducing practical, evidence-based intervention strategies, researchers at George Mason’s College of Public Health are helping healthcare organizations reduce worker burnout, increase resilience, and improve mental health support for their front-line healthcare workers. This legislation will continue to save lives,” **said Dr. Melissa J. Perry, Dean of George Mason’s College of Public Health.**

“UVA Health is grateful for Senator Kaine and Congresswoman Kiggans’ continued commitment to raise awareness of the mental health needs of our healthcare and frontline workers caring for patients and the need to engage openly in this conversation. We can provide the best care for our patients with a resilient and compassionate healthcare workforce and a healthcare environment that is responsive, caring and supportive,” **said K. Craig Kent, M.D., Chief Executive Officer, UVA Health and Executive Vice President, Health Affairs.**

“Choosing a path to serve others as a health care provider is not for the faint of heart. The front lines of a hospital are often faced with very difficult and emotionally taxing situations, and they take its toll. Like Dr. Breen, many providers’ passion and dedication to taking care of others takes precedent over their own wellbeing,” **said Marlon Levy, M.D, MBA, interim senior vice president for VCU Health Sciences and interim CEO of VCU Health System.** “VCU was one of three grant recipients in Virginia and has been able to use the funds to support our organizational focus on Workforce Wellness for our VCU Health team members. As such, VCU is pleased to support the *Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act* and thank Sen. Kaine and Rep. Kiggans for their leadership on this important issue. We must take care of our health care workforce and this legislation helps us do that.”

“Our nation is in the midst of a mental health crisis and healthcare providers see this both through the patients they care for and through their own personal mental health needs. I applaud the work to continue to destigmatize mental health and align resources to support our caregivers, especially in rural and underserved communities where there is already a shortage of healthcare

providers,” said **Mark Nantz, President and CEO Valley Health System, Winchester, Virginia.**

“Physicians and other health care professionals face high levels of stress and burnout and are at increased risk for suicide,” said **Laurel Stine, J.D., M.A. Executive Vice President and Chief Policy Officer at the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention.** “Reauthorizing the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act is paramount to strengthening the mental and behavioral health infrastructure to support the well-being of our nation’s vital healthcare provider workforce. We applaud Senator Kaine for his commitment to saving lives by enhancing and sustaining mental health and suicide prevention programs, and promoting education and awareness among the workforce. AFSP stands ready to advocate for the bill’s passage.”

“The Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act in 2022 was a great first step in addressing physician burnout, and reauthorizing this important legislation is an AMA priority,” said **American Medical Association President Jesse M. Ehrenfeld, M.D., MPH.** “Physician burnout is an epidemic exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic, which made the original legislation so timely. We commend Sens. Kaine and Young and Reps. Kiggans, Dingell, Carter, and Wild for honoring Dr. Breen’s legacy by introducing this legislation that will put continued emphasis on the mental health needs of physicians.”

"Emergency physicians and other health care workers are challenged by extraordinary levels of burnout and stress every day," said **Aisha Terry, MD, MPH, FACEP, president of the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP).** "Dr. Breen was one of us and her story resonates deeply with health care professionals and patients. One of the most impactful ways to honor Dr. Breen’s life and legacy is by reauthorizing the law enacted in her name and taking necessary steps to protect health care workers’ mental health. ACEP is grateful for the bipartisan and bicameral leadership of Senators Kaine and Young and Representatives Kiggans, Dingell, Wild, and Carter, and we urge Congress to swiftly pass this critical legislation."

“Protecting and supporting the mental health of physicians, nurses, and other medical and hospital professionals is essential,” said **APA CEO and Medical Director Saul Levin, M.D., M.P.A.** “As we grapple with critical workforce shortages throughout our healthcare system, it is more important than ever to provide our health care professionals with the support and training needed to properly care for themselves and their patients. It is imperative that Congress swiftly reauthorize the critical resources originally provided in the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act.”

"AACN applauds the introduction the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act," said **Dr. Cynthia McCurren, Board Chair for the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.** "These grants are critical to ensuring our current and future healthcare professionals have access to mental health services, training, and evidence-based strategies. Creating a culture and environment centered on wellness is imperative, especially for the largest segment of the healthcare workforce, nursing.”

"Investing in the well-being of our nation’s nursing students and the nursing workforce is essential to ensuring a healthy supply of clinicians needed to provide quality healthcare services

for all patients in need," **said Dr. Deborah Trautman, President and CEO of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing.** "We look forward to working with Congress, on moving this bipartisan and bicameral effort forward so our nursing schools, faculty, and students have access to much-needed resources."

"Johnson & Johnson is incredibly grateful to stand with the Dr. Lorna Breen Heroes' Foundation and an expansive advocacy community to secure a better future for the US health workforce," **says Jane Adams, Vice President, US Federal Affairs, Johnson & Johnson.** "We are proud to support Dr. Breen's legacy through public policy efforts that will have immeasurable impact on the systemic change underway to improve well-being for all those on the front lines of care."

"Recognizing the great work and excellent results achieved to date, we at Organizational Wellbeing Solutions support reauthorization of the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act. We see the benefits of the support the act provides, making a difference by enhancing clinician wellbeing and improving patient care, in multiple healthcare providers," **said Paul DeChant, MD, MBA, Principal and Co-Founder, Organizational Wellbeing Solutions, LLC.**

"We've seen firsthand the importance of legislation in supporting our frontline healthcare workers. With the passing of the Dr. Lorna Breen Healthcare Provider Protection Act, thousands of our dedicated professionals have benefited from federal funding that helps ensure their well-being and safety while on the job," **said Nigel Girgrah, MD, PhD, Chief Wellness Officer, Ochsner Health.**

"It is only by working together, as health care providers with our patients and colleagues, that we can deliver the quality of health care that all deserve in this country. It is imperative that our health care providers have the support and resources to remain resilient in the face of the many stresses inherent in this work and have useful resources to support their mental health and well-being. It is only with health care professionals who are well, that we can promote the health of all in our society," **said John D Mahan, MD, Professor of Pediatrics, Director of Faculty Development, Nationwide Children's Hospital/The Ohio State University College of Medicine.**

"**The Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science® and the School of Communication and Journalism at Stony Brook University** are delighted to support this reauthorization. Our healthcare workforce needs support for programs that promote a positive organizational culture so that they can deliver the highest quality healthcare available in the United States. With the supports offered through the original act, the Alda Center has offered innovative health care team communication training to more than 500 healthcare workers at Stony Brook Medicine with proven positive impact. We need to continue to protect our own workforce so they can protect us."

"With nearly 30 years of experience supporting, educating and training hundreds of thousands of healthcare workers and leaders, we at **the Schwartz Center for Compassionate Healthcare** know that the healthcare industry is facing a crisis: The healthcare workforce is exhausted, burned out, and demoralized. In addition to harming their own mental health and well-being, this

crisis has serious implications for patients' experiences and outcomes, organizational efficiency, and employee retention. As we look to the future, we know that we must change the system in order for health workers to thrive and provide the best possible care to patients and families."

"ANA was pleased when President Biden signed the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act into law. We know millions of health care professionals are burned out, under extraordinary stress, and some are at high risk of suicide. We cannot let the momentum stop on increasing their access to the tools and resources they may need to improve their mental health," **said ANA President Jennifer Mensik Kennedy, PhD, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN.** "ANA is thrilled that the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act is being introduced in the Senate and is encouraged to see how committed policymakers and health care leaders are in prioritizing the mental health of our nursing and health care workforce."

"The AHA thanks Senators Kaine and Young for their strong leadership and dedication to addressing the mental health challenges facing our nation's health care workers. Reauthorizing the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act is critical in providing our caregivers the support they deserve. Doing so will also help ensure patients and communities continue to have access to high-quality, compassionate, and accessible care," **said Stacey Hughes, Executive Vice President, American Hospital Association.**

"Mennonite Health System in Puerto Rico extends heartfelt appreciation to this amazing effort. Our System supports Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act once again for our people in the island. As a result of this, our healthcare professionals and other Institutions has worked together experiencing a positive impact, fostering resilience, compassion, and a supportive environment, ultimately enhancing the well-being and reducing moral injury of both our workforce and the patients we serve," **said Humberto A. Cruz Esparra, PsyD, MPsy, Clinical Director of CIMA Mennonite Hospital Puerto Rico.**

"Since becoming law in 2022, the Dr. Lorna Breen Healthcare Provider Protection Act led to funding for 44 grant awards to support the health and well-being of health care providers, including emergency nurses. Given the ongoing need for such resources, ENA strongly supports the Dr. Lorna Breen Healthcare Provider Protection Reauthorization Act to continue, and expand, these programs for emergency nurses when they need it most. Thank you to Sens. Kaine and Young as well as Reps. Kiggans and Dingell for sponsoring this important legislation," **said ENA President Chris Dellinger, MBA, BSN, RN, FAEN.**