

Call Script

August Recess Grassroots Challenge 2026

- Hello, I am a physician from [TOWN] and have been treating patients for [add information about your practice: your specialty, number of years you've been practicing, etc.]
- I am calling to urge [REPRESENTATIVE OR SENATOR NAME] to support two recent bipartisan bills that aim to strengthen the physician workforce and stabilize Medicare physician payment. Specifically, I am urging [REPRESENTATIVE OR SENATOR NAME] to support and co-sponsor the H.R. 9693, the ***Patients First Act of 2026*** as well as H.R. 7961, the ***H-1Bs for Physicians and the Healthcare Workforce Act***.
- For decades, Medicare payments haven't kept up with the cost of providing care, putting financial pressure on physician practices. The Patients First Act of 2026 would provide more predictable annual payment updates that better reflect the cost of caring for patients, create a new hybrid payment model for independent primary care practices, and overall improve the long-term stability of the Medicare physician payment system. Most importantly, all these improvements in the Patients First Act of 2026 would ensure patients continue to have access to high-quality care.
- Secondly, the U.S. faces a growing physician shortage, and our international medical graduates are essential to meeting patients' needs. They make up about one-quarter of the U.S. physician workforce and play an important role in caring for patients, especially in rural and underserved communities. The current \$100,000 H-1B visa fee creates an unnecessary barrier to recruiting and retaining these international physicians, worsening workforce shortages and threatening access to care. Co-sponsoring H.R. 7961 would help remove this barrier and strengthen our physician workforce.
- As a physician, I urge [REPRESENTATIVE OR SENATOR NAME] to support these important priorities that will strengthen our physician workforce, stabilize Medicare physician payment, and protect patients' access to care. Thank you for your time and consideration.