Attention ACP members:

The CAFP has brought a bill to the state House to: Support Larger Investments in Primary Care (HB-1365); hearing scheduled for Tuesday, April 24th. We support this bill strongly.

The bill has officially received support from the AAP, CCHN, CO Medical Society, the Emergency Physicians, and Osteopathic Society

Subject: Speak Out: Support Larger Investments in Primary Care

The CAFP’s priority legislation is being considered by the legislature to spur primary care payment reform and increase investments in our primary care system. Currently, we only spend 5-7% of the healthcare dollar on primary care, when over 50% of the total visits are in your practices. We should double our investment in primary care to 15% of the healthcare dollar, so that you have the resources to offer the care you want to provide for your patients. And we should accelerate our move away from volume-based care, with over 90% of payments still being made through fee-for-service. The results of the Patient-Centered Medical Home require investments in after-hours care, care coordinators, behavioral health specialists and more. HB-1365 takes key steps to getting these services funded for your practices.

Speak Out Today and urge your Representative to Support HB-1365

Email Text for Members to Send to Legislators:

Dear Representative _________

As an internist living in your district, I urge you to vote Yes on House Bill 1365. HB-1365 creates a framework for strong and stable primary care infrastructure in Colorado. An effective primary care system is crucial to a lower cost, higher performing health care system. The bill creates a multi-sector collaborative to analyze how to best direct investments and payment reform initiatives, with the goal of more effective and efficient primary care infrastructure.

Primary care sees over 50% of the appointments, but only 5-7% of the healthcare dollar is spent on primary care. HB-1365 allows Coloradans to see how much we’re investing in primary care, and it brings together private and public sector partners to assess how we can more efficiently spend our valuable healthcare dollar.

I strive to provide the best possible care to my patients, and that often means offering services like after-hours care, in-house or coordinated behavioral health, and care coordination with my specialty colleagues. If my patient ends up in the ER, I need to know so that I can follow-up and ensure they can avoid another costly visit. And I like to provide the kind of proactive care to keep my patients out of the ER to begin with, such as regular outreach to patients with chronic conditions or who are high risk. But this kind of care takes resources to hire the right team and pay for infrastructure like electronic health records, which is why we need HB-1365.
I strongly encourage you to vote Yes on HB-1365, so that we can build the primary care system Coloradans deserve.

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Andy Fine, MD, FACP

Governor, American College of Physicians

Colorado Chapter

Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine, University of Colorado School of Medicine