

Cosponsor and Fund the *Dr. Lorna Breen Reauthorization Act* (H.R.929/S.266)

Since 2022, the bipartisan *Lorna Breen Act* has reached more than 285,000 health care workers and leaders to reduce and prevent suicide, mental health conditions, and substance use disorders – but more work is urgently needed. **AFSP urges Congress to reauthorize and fund the *Lorna Breen Act* at \$45M for FY26.**

The Facts



Health workers experience **higher rates of suicide** than non-health workers



Nearly half of health workers report **often feeling burned out**



Health workers report fewer mental health issues in **supportive work environments**

AFSP Recommendations

- **Improve access to mental health resources and training for health care providers**
- **Decrease the administrative burden on health workers – the main driver of burnout**
- **Remove barriers to care, including reducing stigma and ensuring confidentiality**

Background

- **H.R.929** is led by Rep. Debbie Dingell (MI-06), Rep. Jen Kiggans (VA-02), Rep. Jennifer McClellan (VA-04), Rep. Mariannette Miller-Meeks (IA-01), Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (PA-01), and Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi (IL-08); it is in the House Energy & Commerce Committee
- **S.266** is led by Sen. Tim Kaine (VA), Sen. Todd Young (IN), Sen. Jack Reed (RI), and Sen. Roger Marshall (KS); it is in the Senate Health, Education, Labor, & Pensions Committee
- **This bipartisan bill will reauthorize the *Lorna Breen Act* for 5 years to:**
 - Support hospitals, health systems, health professions schools, and community organizations to reduce burnout, enhance peer-support programming, and promote access to mental health and substance use treatment
 - Prioritize rural areas and communities with health worker shortages
 - Reauthorize a grant program for health professions schools to train health care workers and students in strategies to support their mental health and well-being
 - Reauthorize a national evidence-based education and awareness campaign

Some *Lorna Breen Act* grantees have already reduced burnout by 37% and decreased anxiety and depression by at least 50%.

