

The Honorable [Member Name]
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative [Last Name]:

I write to respectfully urge you to cosponsor H.R. 7961, recently introduced bipartisan legislation addressing the imposition of extraordinary H-1B visa fees on health care workers. This measure provides a targeted and practical solution to a policy change that, if left unaddressed, will significantly disrupt access to care for patients and communities across the United States.

Across the country, health care providers continue to face persistent and well-documented workforce shortages. Hospitals, community health centers, rural clinics, and physician practices rely on internationally trained physicians, nurses, therapists, and other clinicians to meet patient demand. These professionals are not a marginal supplement to the workforce; they are an essential component of care delivery in both urban and rural communities, particularly in medically underserved areas where recruitment challenges are most acute.

In September 2025, a presidential proclamation imposed a \$100,000 fee on certain H-1B visa petitions, representing a dramatic and unprecedented increase from prior costs. This policy change creates an immediate and profound financial barrier for health care providers seeking to recruit or retain qualified clinicians through existing, lawful immigration pathways. In practical terms, it forces hospitals and clinics—especially those operating on thin margins, including safety-net providers—to make untenable decisions: delay or forgo hiring, leave critical clinical positions unfilled, or scale back essential services.

The implications of these constraints are direct and consequential. When health care providers cannot recruit or retain sufficient staff, patients experience longer wait times, reduced access to specialty and primary care services, and disruptions in continuity of care. These challenges are especially pronounced in rural communities and federally designated Health Professional Shortage Areas, where international medical graduates and other visa-dependent clinicians often represent a substantial share of the workforce.

H.R. 7961 offers a clear, narrowly tailored, and responsible solution. The legislation would exempt health care workers from these excessive H-1B visa fees, recognizing both the unique workforce dynamics of the health care sector and the urgent need to preserve patient access. Importantly, the bill does not expand immigration programs, alter eligibility criteria, or create new visa categories. Rather, it ensures that existing pathways remain viable and functional for providers and patients who depend on them.

This distinction is critical. The legislation is not about increasing immigration levels; it is about preventing unintended consequences that undermine the delivery of care. Health care workforce policy must be grounded in patient needs, clinical realities, and the operational constraints facing providers. By removing an artificial and disproportionate financial barrier, H.R. 7961 helps stabilize the workforce without changing the underlying structure of the H-1B program.

There is already bipartisan recognition of the urgency of this issue. Members of Congress from both parties have previously expressed concern regarding the impact of excessive visa fees on health care staffing and patient care delivery. H.R. 7961 builds on that foundation by offering a concrete legislative remedy that is both measured and effective.

The stakes are particularly high at a time when the health care system continues to manage rising demand driven by an aging population, increased prevalence of chronic disease, and ongoing workforce attrition following the COVID-19 pandemic. Providers are working diligently to maintain access and quality under these pressures. Policies that unintentionally constrain workforce capacity only exacerbate these challenges.

By cosponsoring H.R. 7961, you would help ensure that health care providers across your district—and across the nation—can continue to recruit and retain the clinicians needed to serve their communities. Your support would send a strong and timely signal that Congress is committed to addressing practical barriers that directly affect patient care and access.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that you join as a cosponsor of H.R. 7961. I would welcome the opportunity to provide any additional information or to connect you with health care providers who can share firsthand perspectives on the impact of this policy.

Thank you for your continued service and for your thoughtful consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
[Your Title / Organization]