REAUTHORIZE AND FUND THE LORNA BREEN ACT

H.R. 929/S. 266 Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act

Health Workers Experience Alarming Levels of Burnout and Poor Mental Health

Dr. Lorna Breen, Nurse Tristin Smith, and Dr. William West were dedicated health workers, loving family members, and supportive friends. Tragically, they also died by suicide.

Lorna, Tristin, and William are heartbreaking examples of the mental health crisis plaguing modern medicine. According to the CDC, health workers' mental health is **worse than any other segment of the U.S. workforce.**

Health workers are struggling and in desperate need of support. Too often, they practice without the support they need in workplaces characterized by extreme stress, administrative burden, and overwork. In many cases, they practice within a cultural context that prizes stoicism. Many even face invasive questioning about their mental health history, making it harder to ask for help when they need it.

In the words of 28-year-old nurse Tristin before she died by suicide, "just when we think we are going to get the love and support we deserve, we get a pizza party and pens for the healthcare heroes."

A First-of-its-Kind Law to Protect and Strengthen Health Workers' Mental Health

In the wake of Dr. Breen's tragic death in 2020, the Dr. Lorna Breen Heroes' Foundation worked with partners, allies, and Congressional champions to develop the bipartisan Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act, which became law in 2022.

This landmark law has already transformed and saved lives—improving the systems in which health workers are educated, trained, and practice by:

- Enabling the development of suicide prevention resources tailored to the unique working conditions of health workers,
- Providing innovative training materials for 35,000+ healthcare leaders to address the specific operational factors and burdens that drive their workforce's burnout, and
- Supporting 250,000+ health workers across 45 evidence-informed initiatives at hospitals, health systems, health professions schools, and community organizations to improve health workers' mental health.

Pass and Fund H.R. 929/S. 266 the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act Now!

Health workers are at the heart of every life saved and every patient cared for, yet the U.S. health care system is straining our workforce and perpetuating the alarming levels of burnout and poor mental health they are experiencing.

We must continue the life-saving, systems-changing work enabled by the landmark Lorna Breen Act and build upon it to ensure our health workers receive the support they need and deserve.

In addition to widening its reach to more hospitals and health systems, **the bipartisan reauthorization prioritizes funding to grantees that seek to reduce administrative burden – the primary driver of health workers' burnout.**

We can't leave the mental health of our health workers up to chance.

With support from the Lorna Breen Act, some grantees:

- **Lowered turnover by 35%**
- **Reduced burnout by 37%**
- **Decreased mental health conditions, including anxiety (53%) and depression (50%)**

Congress must act now to save lives and transform the systems in which our caregivers learn, train, and practice.

16,500+ messages from health workers, healthcare leaders, families, and friends have been sent to Congress supporting the legislation and underscoring that help is needed now more than ever.

"**In 2023,my sister-in-law died by suicide**. Ask her patients, her coworkers, her family, her friends what an outstanding nurse she was. **Burnout and mental health issues are real**, even in those who treat it daily, who see all the things, who take all the stress from their clients or patients home every day."

"As a medical student, I would personally suffer from the consequences of losing this Act. **Please support future doctors of America**."

"**My amazing husband died by suicide in 2022**. He was afraid to seek mental health care; he thought he could lose his job as a surgeon. This loss is enormous, tragic and could have been prevented if he wouldn't have feared punishment and stigma of needing help at a very stressful time in his life. **This should never happen again**."

Scan and learn more about the Lorna Breen Act

Vote to Reauthorize

The Lorna Breen Act is a lifeline for health workers, offering support and resources to improve mental health in our nation's largest and fastest-growing sector. This legislation is not just a matter of policy; it's a critical piece of the health delivery supply chain that benefits not only health workers, but every person who will require medical care in their lifetime.

Please continue to care for our nation's caregivers by reauthorizing and funding this vital piece of legislation.