July 20, 2017

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Niki Tsongas
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative McMorris Rodgers and Representative Tsongas:

On behalf of the National Coalition on Health Care, I write today to thank you for your leadership in supporting the graduate medical residency programs at teaching health centers.

The Coalition is committed to advancing - through research and analysis, education, outreach, and informed advocacy – an affordable, high-value health care system for patients and consumers, payers, employers, and taxpayers. Building and maintaining a primary care infrastructure and workforce is essential to that goal.

This is why the National Coalition on Health Care is pleased to support the bipartisan Teaching Health Centers Graduate Medical Education Extension Act of 2017. This legislation makes a significant contribution to continued efforts in addressing primary care shortages by ensuring the number of physicians trained through the Teaching Health Center Graduate Medical Education Program is sustained. Medical and dental residents participating in this program receive their training in health centers which are on the front lines in the fight against chronic disease.

The Coalition looks forward to continue working with you on this important legislation.

Yours Truly,

John Rother
President and CEO