

July 20, 2021

The Honorable Mark Kelly United States Senate 516 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Susan Collins United States Senate 413 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Kelly and Collins,

On behalf of the Association of Schools Advancing Health Professions (ASAHP), I offer our support for S.2114, the Student Assisted Vaccination Effort (SAVE) Act. Our academic institutions are educating future allied health professionals, and we strongly believe that students across the health professions have a role to play in helping our nation in times of crisis.

ASAHP has participated as a collaborating organization with Students Assist America (SAA), an interprofessional group of 12 associations that led the charge to amend the Public Readiness and Emergency Preparedness (PREP) Act to allow qualified health professions students to administer COVID-19 vaccines with supervision. Extending their ability to vaccinate in future public health emergencies is a key part of the country's capacity to respond quickly and effectively. We applaud your efforts to make that possible through this legislation.

ASAHP is a national association whose membership consists of over 125 nonprofit universities offering 175 different academic programs and more than 930-degree programs focused on allied health and the health sciences.

As we continue to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic and look to ways to expand our future available healthcare workforce, we look forward to working with you to advance the SAVE Act. Should you have any questions about how our students can assist America, please do not hesitate to reach out to me or my colleague Jacoby Lawrence, Director of Legislative Affairs and Program Services, at jacoby@asahp.org.

Sincerely,

John Colbert, M.A., J.D.

**Executive Director** 

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