Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

March 24, 2023

The Honorable Robert Aderholt Chairman Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin Chair Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Committee on Appropriations U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20510 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Labor, Health and
Human Services, Education, and
Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito Ranking Member Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Committee on Appropriations U.S. Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Aderholt, Ranking Member DeLauro, Chair Baldwin, and Ranking Member Capito:

The Children's Hospitals Graduate Medical Education program (CHGME) provides freestanding children's hospitals with federal graduate medical education funding to support the training of pediatricians and pediatric specialists. Nationally, CHGME funds the training of over 7,000 physicians annually and approximately half of all pediatric residencies. The CHGME program is the most important federal investment in the pediatric healthcare workforce and has improved children's access to healthcare and aided in addressing pediatric specialty shortages. However, shortages do still exist and a vigorous CHGME program is necessary. We, as members of the Georgia delegation, urge strong support for the CHGME program in FY24.

The CHGME program was created by Congress to provide a dedicated source of support for training in children's hospitals which do not receive support through the Medicare Graduate Medical Education (GME) program. However, the current level of funding provided for training

kids' doctors through the CHGME program is only half of that provided per trainee in the Medicare GME program. We ask the committee to strengthen federal investments in CHGME by working towards a program fully funded at comparable GME per-trainee levels to help ensure a strong foundation for children's health care across the country and into the future. As a step towards this goal, we urge robust funding for the CHGME program in FY24 and at a level no lower than the FY23 enacted funding level.

While the CHGME program has been a great success, much work remains to be done to eliminate shortages in pediatric specialty care, ensure general pediatricians and pediatric specialists are available in both cities and rural communities, and to work towards parity between CHGME and the adult Medicare GME program.

CHGME is a critical investment in our country's children. Children's health is directly tied to the strength of our pediatric workforce and we thank the Subcommittee for their leadership in investing in the healthcare of children. We urge strong support for the CHGME program in FY24.

Sincerely,

Barry Loudermilk

Member of Congress

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United States Senator

Raphael Warnock

United States Senator

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Austin Scott
Member of Congress

Earl L. "Buddy" Carter Member of Congress

Earl I bully Carte

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress

David Scott Member of Congress

A. Drew Ferguson IV
Member of Congress

Lucy McBath Member of Congress

Lucy MCBat

Nikema Williams Member of Congress Rich McCormick, MD, MBA Member of Congress

Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr. Member of Congress