

Extending funding for Teaching Health Centers

Problem: Teaching Health Centers were not being supported by Republicans in Congress as they were included in the ACA.

Context: The first cycle of funding was ending, and residency training was in danger. A QCOM student going into family medicine who had just matched at a THC sponsored program, attended the AAFP Advocacy Summit in DC.

Methods: I was present at this conference and went with the student to meet her representatives. When we met with Dr Phil Roe, who was firmly against supporting extending funding, he focused on hearing from the student. She told her story that her residency training at this THC would be compromised. Because the THC funding would end after her second year, she might not be able to complete her training and return to practice in NE TN.

Outcomes: After meeting with this student and hearing her story, he decided he would look more closely into the THC program. In a short time he became a supporter of extending THC funding!