



July 6, 2020

The Honorable Richard Durbin  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Shelly Moore Capito  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tammy Duckworth  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Danny Davis  
U.S. House of Representative  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Gallagher  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresspersons Durbin, Capito, Murkowski, Duckworth, Davis, and Gallagher:

On behalf of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), which represents 136,700 family physicians and medical students across the country, I write to express our support for the *Resilience Investment, Support, and Expansion (RISE) from Trauma Act* (S. 1770/H.R. 3180).

The *Rise from Trauma Act* would provide funding for programs to support persons who are exposed to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACES). These stressors, which include abuse, neglect, or household challenges, can cause individuals to engage in maladaptive behaviors such as smoking tobacco products, illicit drug use, or alcohol abuse. According to a landmark study, individuals who are exposed to traumatic experiences are more likely to be diagnosed with adult diseases later in life.

The AAFP supports the *Rise from Trauma Act* because we recognize that social and environmental factors strongly influence patients' health. Family physicians play an important role in addressing social determinants of health and the needs of patients who have experienced adverse events. Therefore, the AAFP developed an online tool, the Neighborhood Navigator, to help identify social and community resources at the point of care. The AAFP also supports ACEs screening and programs that bolster resilience and health equity.

Again, the AAFP appreciates your leadership on this important issue. For more information, please contact Sonya Clay ([sclay@aafp.org](mailto:sclay@aafp.org)) in the AAFP's Government Relations Division.

Sincerely,

John S. Cullen, MD, FAAFP  
Board Chair

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