

Support for Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA)

Senators Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV)

Quotes of Support

“As we face a critical shortage of health professionals with expert knowledge and skills in palliative care, AAHPM applauds Senators Baldwin and Capito for their leadership in introducing the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act to ensure all patients facing serious illness or at the end of life can receive high-quality care,” **said Holly Yang, MD MSHPEd HMDC FACP FAAHPM, President of the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine.** “We urge Congress to recognize the importance of a well-trained, interprofessional healthcare team to providing coordinated, person-centered serious illness care and to act now to build a healthcare workforce more closely aligned with America’s evolving healthcare needs – including future pandemics. Advancing PCHETA will go a long way towards improving quality of care and quality of life for our nation’s sickest and most vulnerable patients, along with their families and caregivers.”

“Palliative care treats the whole person, not just the disease. Ensuring health care providers can be trained in this specialized, coordinated form of care and providing funding for robust public education through the Palliative Care Education and Training Act can help increase access to palliative care for cancer patients and make their cancer journey less difficult,” **said Lisa A. Lacasse, President of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network.** “We commend Sens. Baldwin and Capito for their leadership and steadfast commitment to palliative care and to improving quality of life for patients, including those impacted by cancer.”

“Palliative care is a critical component in treating our patients,” **said Everett Vokes, MD, FASCO, Board Chair of the Association for Clinical Oncology (ASCO).** “We talk about providing the best care for our patients, and that includes the most effective treatments. However, many of those treatments have side effects coupled with symptoms from the underlying disease. Palliative care is all about addressing them. ASCO is proud to endorse the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA), legislation which aims to increase access to palliative care by promoting education, training, enhanced research, and awareness. ASCO has long supported the PCHETA legislation and will continue to advocate for its enactment.”

“Palliative care is critical for supporting patients and their families dealing with serious illness so that they can live in accordance with their inherent dignity and worth. Palliative care ensures people are treated with respect, love and support while serving the goal of improving quality of life for both the patient and the family. The Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act makes a critical contribution to ensuring that patients and their families are provided the life-affirming support and dignity they deserve,” **said Sister Mary Haddad, RSM, President and CEO Catholic Health Association of the United States.**

“The Center to Advance Palliative Care (CAPC) applauds Senators Baldwin and Capito for championing the Palliative Care Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA). PCHETA addresses the critical need to grow the palliative care workforce and increase public awareness of palliative care. Passage of the bill would be an important step toward improving quality of life for all Americans living with serious illness and their loved ones,” **said Brynn Bowman, CEO of the Center to Advance Palliative Care.** “We thank Senators Baldwin and Capito for their leadership on this effort and look forward to continuing our work together to achieve the vision of palliative care everywhere.”

“We are very grateful for the longtime leadership of Senators Baldwin and Capito in addressing the challenges facing the palliative care and hospice workforce,” said **Michelle Webb, President of the Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association (HPNA)**. **Ginger Marshall, HPNA Chief Executive Officer** added, “We must support and train the providers we need at the bedside to deliver care to patients and families dealing with serious illness, and this legislation includes provisions to grow, improve, and sustain the hospice and palliative care workforce. We look forward to continuing to work with Senators Baldwin and Capito on this important issue.”

“Increasing the depth and breadth of the workforce is critical to ensuring older adults’ and families’ access to hospice and palliative care. By providing support for worker education and training, the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act will help to build a strong pipeline for more staff with the training and education needed to meet the growing population of those with serious illness. Frankly, this cannot come soon enough. America’s population is aging, and demand is rising,” said **Katie Smith Sloan, President and CEO of LeadingAge, the association of nonprofit providers of aging services**. “We applaud Senators Baldwin and Capito for their introduction of this legislation, which could alleviate some of the hardship and strain currently endured by consumers and providers alike.”

“Palliative care provides the supports and comfort that allow individuals to participate as fully as possible in their lives,” said **William A. Dombi, President of National Association for Home Care & Hospice**. “Fulfilling our Nation’s need for palliative care-trained staff is a widely-recognized imperative in our health care system, and is essential to meeting the care needs of a diverse array of patients – including those with multiple chronic conditions, patients with serious illness, and those who are terminally ill. The National Association for Home Care & Hospice (NAHC) applauds Senators Baldwin, Capito and others for their continuing efforts to address this need through their reintroduction of the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA).”

“The National Coalition for Hospice and Palliative Care applaud Senators Baldwin and Capito for their steadfast leadership and advocacy upon the introduction of the Palliative Care Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA). This legislation represents bi-partisan real-world solutions to improve the access and quality of care for all patients and caregivers with serious illness. We know the American public strongly support this,” said **Amy Melnick, Executive Director of the National Coalition for Hospice and Palliative Care**. “Senators Baldwin and Capito recognize that now, more than ever, patients and families deserve these necessary services that improve quality of life and reduce the symptoms and stress of a serious illness. This legislation will help train this essential inter-disciplinary workforce, help raise awareness about the benefits of palliative care and encourage more palliative care research.”

“Every American facing a serious or life-limiting illness deserves access to quality hospice and palliative care. We desperately need to train more professionals in the field of palliative medicine. Thank you to Senators Baldwin and Capito for your leadership in reintroducing the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act (PCHETA),” said **Ben Marcantonio, COO and Interim CEO of National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization**. “PCHETA addresses long-term staffing shortages through increased education opportunities in palliative medicine for future doctors and nurses.”

“Palliative care is a team-based healthcare specialty focused on improving quality of life for patients and their families living with serious illness. By providing an added layer of support to patients, families, and their clinicians undergoing all forms of medical treatments, palliative care has been shown to reduce pain and other distressing symptoms, enhance quality of life, and improve survival. As more and more Americans are living longer and with serious and chronic health conditions, the need for high quality palliative care has never been greater,” said **Sean Morrison, MD, Chair of the Brookdale Department of Geriatrics and Palliative Medicine and Director, National Palliative Care Research Center, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai**. “As Chair of the largest department of Geriatric and Palliative Medicine in the country, and on behalf of my patients and their families, I cannot thank Senators Baldwin

and Capito enough for reintroducing the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act. The investment in growing this critical area of healthcare will ensure that millions of American will achieve the best quality of life for as long as possible in the setting of serious and chronic illness.”

“NPHI is proud to support the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act which will make meaningful investments in the end-of-life care workforce while expanding awareness of the services available to patients and their families as they navigate the challenges of serious illness,” **said Carole Fisher, President of National Partnership for Healthcare and Hospice Innovation (NPHI)**. “We look forward to working with our partners in Congress, the Administration, and the end-of-life care community to advance this critically important legislation.”

“The Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) is fully supportive of the reintroduction of the Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act,” **said Danya Garner, PhD, RN, NPD-BC, OCN®, CCRN-K, President of the Oncology Nursing Society**. “ONS applauds Senators Baldwin and Capito for their dedication to ensuring the workforce for those with serious illness, including cancer, is bolstered in the future”.

"Palliative care and hospice services can play a critical role in supporting children with chronic conditions or life-threatening illnesses. Far too many children and their families do not have access to this vital care, which can help alleviate some of the suffering associated with serious illness. The Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act would bring needed awareness to the importance of palliative care and work to ensure more children and families can benefit from it. Pediatricians thank Senators Tammy Baldwin and Shelley Moore Capito for their leadership and urge lawmakers to advance this bipartisan legislation without delay," **said Sandy Chung, MD, FAAP, President of American Academy of Pediatrics**.

Supporting Organizations

Alzheimer’s Association, Alzheimer’s Impact Movement, American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, American Academy of Pediatrics, American Academy of Pas, American Cancer Society, Cancer Action Network, American College of Surgeons, American Geriatrics Society, American Heart Association, American Psychological Association, American Psychosocial Oncology Society, Association for Clinical Oncology, Association of Oncology Social Work, Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses, Association of Professional Chaplains, The California State University Shiley Haynes, Institute for Palliative Care, Cambia Health Solutions, Cancer Support Community, CaringKind, Catholic Health Association of the United States, Center to Advance Palliative Care, Children’s National Health System, Coalition for Compassionate Care of California, Colorectal Cancer Alliance, Compassus, Courageous Parents Network, The George Washington Institute for Spirituality and Health, GO2 for Lung Cancer, HealthCare Chaplaincy Network, Hospice Action Network, Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association, LeadingAge, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Motion Picture & Television Fund, National Alliance for Caregiving, National Association for Home Care & Hospice, National Brain Tumor Society, National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship, National Coalition for Hospice and Palliative Care, National Comprehensive Cancer Network, National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization, National Palliative Care Research Center, National Partnership for Healthcare and Hospice Innovation, National Patient Advocate Foundation, National POLST Paradigm, Oncology Nursing Society, Palliative Care Quality Collaborative, Pediatric Palliative Care Coalition, PAs in Hospice and Palliative Medicine, Prevent Cancer Foundation, ResolutionCare, a Vynca company, Social Work Hospice & Palliative Care Network, Society of Pain and Palliative Care Pharmacists, St. Baldrick’s Foundation, Supportive Care Matters, Susan G. Komen, Trinity Health, West Health Institute,

Arizona Association for Home Care, Arizona Hospice & Palliative Care Organization, Association for Home & Hospice Care of North Carolina, California Hospice and Palliative Care Association (CHAPCA), California Association for Health Services at Home, The Connecticut Association for Healthcare at Home, The Home Care Alliance of Massachusetts, Granite State Home Health & Hospice Association (NH), Home Care and Hospice Association of Colorado, Home Care Association of Florida, HomeCare Association of Louisiana, Home Care Association of New York State, Home Care Association of Washington, Home Care & Hospice Alliance of Maine, Home Care & Hospice Association of New Jersey, Homecare & Hospice Association of Utah, Illinois HomeCare & Hospice Council, Indiana Association for Home and Hospice Care, Kentucky Home Care Association, LeadingAge Ohio, Maryland-National Capital Homecare Association, Michigan HomeCare and Hospice Association, Minnesota Home Care Association, Missouri Alliance for Home Care, Nebraska Association for Home Healthcare and Hospice, New Mexico Association for Home & Hospice Care, Ohio Council for Home Care & Hospice, Oregon Association for Home Care, Pennsylvania Homecare Association, South Carolina Home Care & Hospice Association, Tennessee Association for Home Care, Texas Association for Home Care & Hospice, The Virginia Association for Home Care and Hospice, Wisconsin Association for Home Health Care, and Wisconsin Hospice and Palliative Care Association.