



June 17, 2026

Dear Members of the Michigan Legislature,

We write to you today as leaders in osteopathic medicine representing physicians, patients, and the organizations that have dedicated themselves to advancing the highest standards of medical care in Michigan and across the nation. We stand together in strong opposition to House Bill 5313, which would reduce continuing medical education (CME) requirements for Michigan physicians by half.

The practice of medicine is not static. New treatments, new research, and new standards of care emerge constantly. Continuing education is not a burden placed on physicians, but rather it is the mechanism by which the oath we took on becoming physicians is honored every single day. It is how we ensure that the patient who walks through the door today receives the best medicine has to offer today – not **the best of** five or ten years ago.

HB 5313 would undermine that commitment. Michigan's osteopathic physicians, Doctors of Osteopathic Medicine (DOs), represent a significant share of the state's healthcare workforce, serving patients across every region of Michigan, from major urban medical centers to rural communities that depend heavily on local physicians for primary and specialty care. These patients trust that their doctors are keeping pace with advances in medicine. Cutting CME requirements in half sends the wrong message to patients, to the medical community, and to the public.

We want to be clear: this is not a partisan issue, nor is it limited to one specialty or one type of physician. Research published in the *Journal of Patient Experience* found that most patients across age groups and backgrounds said they would lose trust in a physician if they learned that the physician had lobbied to reduce their own continuing education requirements. Michigan's patients deserve to know their physicians are held to the highest possible standard. This drastic CME rollback has the potential to erode the trust that patients have in the medical profession.

We also recognize that this bill affects allopathic physicians and their patients as well. Lowering the bar for any physician ultimately lowers it for all patients. We respectfully urge the Michigan Legislature to reject HB 5313 and reaffirm Michigan's commitment to a physician workforce that never stops learning and never stops striving to provide the very best care.

Michigan's patients are counting on you. We ask that you vote no on HB 5313.

Sincerely,

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