

Resolution by the Pennsylvania Medical Assistance Advisory Committee (MAAC) Urging Governor Shapiro to Establish the Governor's Office of Health Care Workforce Innovation and Reform, Cabinet and Advisory Council

Recognizing that Pennsylvania is facing a severe healthcare workforce shortage in all sectors of health care, including primary, acute, oral, long-term care and behavior health positions¹, that will only become more critical without coordinated action and Governor-led leadership to ensure sufficient adequately trained, compensated and employed health care staff to meet the Commonwealth's full continuum of our health care needs now and in the future:

The Medical Assistance Advisory Committee of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (MAAC) urges Governor Shapiro to execute an Executive Order establishing the Governor's Office of Health Care Workforce Innovation and Reform, Cabinet and Advisory Council to coordinate the Commonwealth's Health Care Workforce Reform Agenda, create a strategic plan and implement such plan to address this crisis.

This targeted response is needed to address the projected deficit in less than three years of 277,711 health care workers, such as physicians, medical assistants, home health aides and nursing assistants and the largest shortage of nurses in the nation².

Although many sectors of the Commonwealth's economy are facing workforce shortages, access to a full continuum of needed health care is more critical to everyone's health, safety and quality of life, necessitating this targeted, Governor-led leadership.

¹ Among Pennsylvania's 67 counties, 63 Pennsylvania counties are entirely or partially primary care health care professional shortage areas (HPSAs) and 53 are entirely or partially mental health HPSAs.

² Mercer, US Healthcare Labor Market, <https://www.mercer.us/content/dam/mercer/assets/content-images/north-america/united-states/us-healthcare-news/us-2021-healthcare-labor-market-whitepaper.pdf>