



April 21, 2015

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*Henry Ford Medical Group*

*Henry Ford Hospital  
& Health Network*  
Henry Ford Hospital  
Henry Ford Behavioral Health Services  
Maple Grove Center  
Kingswood Hospital  
Henry Ford Cottage Hospital  
Henry Ford Medical Centers

*Henry Ford Macomb Hospitals*  
Clinton Township Campus  
Mt. Clemens Campus  
Warren Campus  
Henry Ford Macomb Health Centers

*Henry Ford West Bloomfield Hospital*

*Henry Ford Wyandotte Hospital*  
Center for Health Services

*Henry Ford Physician Network*

*Health Alliance Plan*  
Alliance Health and Life  
HAP Preferred  
CuraNet

*Community Care Services*  
Henry Ford at Home  
Henry Ford Health Products  
Hospices of Henry Ford  
Henry Ford Extended Care  
Henry Ford Home Health Care  
Center for Senior Independence  
Greenfield Health Systems  
Henry Ford Continuing Care  
Henry Ford OptimEyes  
Henry Ford Pharmacy  
Occupational Health

*Centers of Excellence*  
Heart & Vascular Institute  
Josephine Ford Cancer Center  
Neuroscience Institute  
Transplant Institute  
Vatrikati Urology Institute

[henryford.com](http://henryford.com)

The Honorable Mike Callton  
Chairman, Health Policy Committee  
State Capitol  
Michigan House of Representatives  
P.O. Box 30014  
Lansing, MI 48909

**RE: Testimony, FY 2016 Budget, Graduate Medical Education**

Dear Chairman Callton and Members of the Committee:

I am writing to express our concerns regarding the fiscal year 2016 executive budget proposals to eliminate state funding for graduate medical education (GME).

The Governor's FY 2016 budget would eliminate \$163 million in GME funding, in addition to \$14 million already eliminated through the FY2015 Executive Order. This would reduce funding for the training of medical residents at Henry Ford Health System by over \$17 million in 2015-2016.

These cuts will have a direct and negative impact on Michigan's future physician workforce, and adversely impact the growing Life Sciences Industry in our state.

Henry Ford, combined with resources from nearby universities and other health systems, contributes to a Life Sciences Economy that is attracting and growing research and technology in our state. GME funding is a critical resource for Michigan's Life Science Industry. It helps make Henry Ford one of the largest non-university research programs, attracting more than \$60 million in NIH funding and other external public health research grants to the state annually.

GME funding allows Henry Ford and the state of Michigan to attract and retain the best and the brightest physicians and researchers. These industry leaders conduct clinical trials and develop new products that can attract and grow life sciences companies to the areas around teaching hospitals and universities.

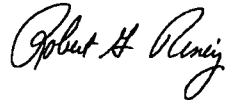
With more than 23,000 employees, Henry Ford is one of Michigan's largest employers. It is one of the nation's largest medical education programs in the country. Forty percent of all Michigan physicians have trained at some point in their career at Henry Ford Health System.

Henry Ford is also a safety net provider, with 58% of all income generated by Medicaid and Medicare patients, including many dually eligible for both Medicaid and Medicare. HFHS provides more than \$314 million in uncompensated care. Medical residents are a vital component of our physician workforce and contribute to our ability to provide access to primary and specialty care services for uninsured and underserved patients in our community.

With operating margins of less than \$500,000 per year, Henry Ford does not have the ability to absorb cuts of \$17 without eliminating services to our communities.

Providing Michigan's future physician workforce, attracting millions in external research funding, and growing a vibrant Life Sciences Industry are all state-wide benefits. Therefore, I urge you to work with Governor Snyder and members of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees on a solution to restore funding for GME through the use of state general funds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert G. Riney". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "R".

Robert G. Riney