

Dear ASCLD Colleague,

CFSO NEEDS YOUR HELP. We are writing on two matters that need your immediate assistance. There are two significant issues in Congress that will help the Forensic Science Community.

Please call or email your Member of Congress and request that they

1. become Members of the House of Representatives Forensic Science Caucus and;
2. sign onto H.R. 8069/S928, the Strengthening the Medical Examiner and Coroner System Act of 2024.

Please use one of the two templates below for your letter. One is for a Member of the House and the other is for a Member of the Senate. Please note that the letters are slightly different.

(Congressman or Congresswoman) \_\_\_\_\_

I am writing to encourage you to become a member of the House of Representatives Forensic Science Caucus. The Forensic Science Caucus was created as a bipartisan organization by Congressman Guest (R-MS) and Congressman Cleaver (D-MO) to educate Members of Congress on matters critical to the criminal justice system that pertain to forensic sciences and to advocate internally for legislation that would ensure the science's continuous advancement and support, wide availability to investigators and litigants, and compliance with the highest standards of quality assurance. The Caucus will provide detailed briefings on subjects that are timely to the community and require attention such as the forensic pathologists workforce shortage. Please see the attached invitation from the co-chairs.

I am also writing to encourage you to sign on to H.R. 8069, the Strengthening the Medical Examiner and Coroner System Act of 2024. H.R. 8069 and S.928 are pieces of legislation pending in the Congress which will:

- provide payment to individuals selected by such entity for a forensic pathology fellowship for salary, fringe benefits, related supply expenses, and other educational expenses of such individuals
- provide training for medicolegal death investigators, including paying for the costs of continuing education for medicolegal death investigators for purposes of such individuals—
  - becoming certified by the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigation (or another accredited certifying organization); and maintaining such certification; or to assist eligible entities in providing the education and training to individuals employed by such entities necessary and in obtaining accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education for forensic pathology fellowships.

Both of these items are of vital importance to the state/city/county of \_\_\_\_\_ that you represent in Congress. We appreciate your support of forensic science and would encourage you to contact Beth Lavach [bethlavach@elsandassociates.com](mailto:bethlavach@elsandassociates.com), Government Relations Director for the Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations if you have any questions on these requests. CFSO represents and advocates for forensic science service providers and forensic science professionals in Washington D.C.

Provide your signature block and line

(Senator) \_\_\_\_\_

I am writing to encourage you to encourage you to sign on to S928, the Strengthening the Medical Examiner and Coroner System Act of 2024. H.R. 8069 and S.928 are pieces of legislation pending in the Congress which will:

- provide payment to individuals selected by such entity for a forensic pathology fellowship for salary, fringe benefits, related supply expenses, and other educational expenses of such individuals
- provide training for medicolegal death investigators, including paying for the costs of continuing education for medicolegal death investigators for purposes of such individuals—
  - becoming certified by the American Board of Medicolegal Death Investigation (or another accredited certifying organization); and maintaining such certification; or to assist eligible entities in providing the education and training to individuals employed by such entities necessary and in obtaining accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education for forensic pathology fellowships.

This is of vital importance to the state/city/county of \_\_\_\_\_ that you represent in Congress. We appreciate your support of forensic science and would encourage you to contact Beth Lavach [bethlavach@elsandassociates.com](mailto:bethlavach@elsandassociates.com), Government Relations Director for the Consortium of Forensic Science Organizations if you have any questions on these requests. CFSO represents and advocates for forensic science service providers and forensic science professionals in Washington D.C.

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