



## AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS

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July 22, 2021

The Honorable Ben Cardin  
U.S. Senate  
509 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roger Marshall, MD  
U.S. Senate  
479 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Cardin and Marshall:

The American College of Surgeons (ACS) is pleased to endorse and offer our support for S. 2422, the *Bipartisan Solution to Cyclical Violence Act of 2021*. This important legislation would authorize grants to expand services and conduct research for hospital-based violence intervention programs (HVIPs).

Violence is a major public health issue that disproportionately affects our most vulnerable populations as well as people of color, contributing to health disparities. The ACS Committee on Trauma (COT) verifies over 500 trauma centers in the U.S., which provide care for traumatic injuries including interpersonal violence. For survivors of violence, repeat injury is exceedingly common. However, violence prevention services have been shown to improve patients' recovery and decrease the risk of re-injury. HVIPs have demonstrated success and value by mitigating the risk factors associated with violence and significantly reducing violent injury recidivism.

The ACS strongly supports S. 2422, not only as a way to prevent violent injury, but also as a step toward the reduction of health inequities. We thank you for your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

David B. Hoyt, MD, FACS  
Executive Director