

Congress of the United States
U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Small Business
2361 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515-6515

NOTICE OF HEARING

June 12, 2019

11:30 A.M., 2360 Rayburn House Office Building

TO: Members, Committee on Small Business

FROM: Nydia Velázquez, Chairwoman

DATE: Wednesday, June 5, 2019

The Committee on Small Business will meet for a hearing titled, “The Doctor is Out. Rising Student Loan Debt and the Decline of the Small Medical Practice.” The hearing is scheduled to begin at **11:30 A.M. on Wednesday, June 12, 2019 in Room 2360 of the Rayburn House Office Building.**

Student loan debt is now a \$1.49 trillion issue that continues to break records quarter after quarter. Not only has it forced many younger and older Americans to reevaluate careers paths but has also hampered small business formation and expansion. Among medical professionals, it has hindered opportunities for sole or private practice, while limiting or influencing the specialty many medical professionals are able to choose from. Members will hear testimony about the cause of the staggering growth in student loan debt, why medical professionals are more likely to have higher debt levels, and the impact it has on specialization and private practice decisions. Additionally, the hearing will examine what legislative solutions or ideas are available to reduce student loan debt and increase the number of sole practices in the health care field, particularly in rural areas.

A staff briefing will be held at 2:00 P.M. on Monday, June 10, 2019 in Room 2360 of the Rayburn House Office Building.

If you or your staff have questions, please contact Matthew Bowman, Professional Staff Member for the Committee, at 202-225-4038.