

Senator Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
SR-317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Charles Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
SH-522 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6300

Senator Lamar Alexander
Chairman
Senate HELP Committee
SD-428 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6300

Senator Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Senate HELP Committee
SD-428 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6300

March 13, 2017

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Democratic Leader Schumer, Chairman Alexander, and Ranking Member Murray:

The undersigned organizations, representing millions of patients, advocates, caregivers and health care providers would like to reaffirm our support for President Trump's nomination of Dr. Scott Gottlieb as Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). We ask that Senators in the Democratic and Republican caucuses, and the Senate HELP committee, vote to confirm Dr. Gottlieb.

The United States is at a pivotal moment in terms of public health. The FDA and patients need the leadership and experience that Dr. Gottlieb will bring as soon as possible.

Dr. Scott Gottlieb is not only well qualified, and has received broad support, but importantly, as a physician who has treated patients, he knows the importance having the best available treatments based on the best science. As a survivor himself, he knows what it's like to fight cancer and understands the battles that patients face every day.

Currently a resident fellow at the American Enterprise Institute focusing on the FDA and CMS, Dr. Gottlieb is also a member of the Federal Health IT Policy Committee. His previous experience includes public service as FDA deputy commissioner under President George W. Bush from 2005 to 2007.

Dr. Gottlieb not only has the experience that will be critical to expand upon the agency's important work, but has firsthand expertise as a physician that has treated patients, understanding the breadth of work that needs to be achieved on their behalf.

Dr. Gottlieb's strong scientific base and in-depth knowledge of key regulatory processes. Through his knowledge and experience, we have no doubt that Dr. Gottlieb will be the right person to ensure the FDA keeps pace with science and innovation without sacrificing the safety and efficacy gold standard established by the FDA.

Additionally, we know that Dr. Gottlieb can maximize effectiveness for patients through the FDA. Congress must ensure that FDA continues its important mission to provide patients with safe and effective treatments. We ask the Senate to do what is right by patients and immediately confirm Dr. Scott Gottlieb as FDA commissioner.

Sincerely,