



Sound Policy. Quality Care.

March 31, 2017

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Chair, Senate HELP Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member, Senate HELP Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray:

The undersigned members of the Alliance of Specialty Medicine write to express our support for the recent appointment of Scott Gottlieb, MD to Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

As a practicing physician and hospitalist for many years, Dr. Gottlieb has a deep understanding of the effect healthcare policy can have on patients as well as physicians. We believe he will bring a wealth of knowledge to the position and be an important advocate for the health care community.

He has also served in government in various capacities, including as senior adviser for medical technology, director of medical policy development, and deputy commissioner for medical and scientific affairs at the FDA. Given that wealth of policy experience, we believe he will provide a steady hand at the FDA to ensure that our patients receive products that are both safe and effective. In addition, his broad-based policy experience will hopefully help to guide a more collaborative effort between the FDA and other entities, especially the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS).

Like Dr. Gottlieb, our organization is dedicated to fostering patient access to the highest quality care. We look forward to working with him to improve health care policy for specialty physicians and their many patients.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Facial Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery
American Association of Neurological Surgeons
American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery
American Society of Echocardiography
American Society of Plastic Surgeons
Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations
Congress of Neurological Surgeons

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American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery • American Association of Neurological Surgeons
American College of Mohs Surgery • American College of Osteopathic Surgeons • American Gastroenterological Association
American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Association • American Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgery • American Society of Echocardiography
American Society of Plastic Surgeons • American Urological Association • Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations
Congress of Neurological Surgeons • National Association of Spine Specialists