

September 8, 2016

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
House Energy & Commerce Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
House Energy and Commerce Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Joe Pitts
Chairman
Health Subcommittee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Gene Green
Ranking Member
Health Subcommittee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Pete Olson
U.S House of Representatives
2133 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Dave Loebsack
U.S. House of Representatives
1527 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Upton, Pallone, Pitts, Green, Olson and Loebsack,

The undersigned organizations, representing physicians, allied health professionals, patients, community health organizations and industry, commend you for holding a hearing on September 8th regarding H.R. 1192, "The National Diabetes Clinical Care Commission Act." We urge passage by the Energy and Commerce Committee as soon as possible to facilitate expedited approval by the House and subsequent approval by the Senate this year.

We are very hopeful that the Committee's action will allow for enactment of H.R. 1192 this year and help the nation pivot from continuing the status quo to instead undertaking more proactive and innovative approaches to metabolic, autoimmune and insulin resistant diseases, which include the escalating diabetes epidemic and the chronic disease complications of diabetes. The United States spends \$322 billion annually controlling the high blood glucose levels that characterize diabetes or the cardiac, nerve, kidney and newly recognized cancer-related complications of the disease. At this level of investment, the nation cannot afford to be complacent and accept inefficiencies and inconsistent policies as part of the federal response to a disease that continues to grow unchecked.

As you know, H.R. 1192 creates a commission which would include leaders of the federal government as well as several private sector experts in diabetes and its disease complications. The commission would review the myriad of ways the government currently spends money on activities related to the diagnosis and treatment of diabetes and other metabolic, autoimmune and insulin resistant diseases, and make recommendations on how these funds could be utilized more effectively.

Through innovation, collaboration, and application of advances in care called for in this important legislation, H.R. 1192 provides the opportunity to begin to reduce the staggering impact of diabetes on health care spending, while simultaneously improving care for the tens of millions of Americans living with diabetes, and the many more tens of millions of Americans impacted by diabetes.

We thank you and the Members of the Energy and Commerce Committee for taking action to advance H.R. 1192 and we are gratified by the support of the 220 co-sponsors of this bill. We look forward to working with you to secure its passage by the House of Representatives and the Senate this year.

Sincerely,

Abbott
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Ophthalmology
American Association of Clinical Endocrinologists
American Association of Diabetes Educators
American Association of Kidney Patients
American Clinical Laboratory Association
American College of Cardiology
American Diabetes Association
American Medical Association
American Optometric Association
American Pharmacists Association
American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery
American Society of Endocrine Physician Assistants
American Society of Nephrology
AstraZeneca
Becton Dickinson and Company
Board for Certification of Nutrition Specialists
Children with Diabetes
Dexcom, Inc.
Diabetes Hands Foundation
Diabetes Patient Advocacy Coalition
diaTribe Foundation
Eli Lilly and Company
Endocrine Society
Healthcare Leadership Council
Health Monitor Network
Johnson & Johnson
JDRF
Medtronic
National Kidney Foundation
Novo Nordisk, Inc.
Obesity Action Coalition
Obesity Medicine Association
Omada Health, Inc.
Renal Physicians Association
Roche Diabetes Care, Inc.
Sanofi
The Obesity Society
Vivus, Inc.
Weight Watchers International
YMCA of the USA