

March 2, 2015

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

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

Dear Representative Olson and Representative Loebsack,

The undersigned organizations, representing physicians, allied health professionals, patients, community health organizations and industry, write to thank you for introducing H.R. 1192, "The National Diabetes Clinical Care Commission Act," in the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress. As supporters of this legislation and its objectives, we look forward to working with you to achieve passage by the House of Representatives as soon as possible.

With your leadership regarding this very important piece of legislation, our nation puts forth a serious response to the escalating diabetes epidemic and the chronic diseases that represent complications of the disease. We know from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) 2014 National Diabetes Statistics Report that the number of Americans with diabetes continues to grow unchecked. We also know that maintaining the status quo of care for the 86 million Americans with pre-diabetes is not an option.

H.R. 1192 creates a commission for the purpose of improving the implementation and coordination of clinical care for patients with pre-diabetes, diabetes and the chronic diseases and conditions that result from diabetes, such as cardiovascular disease, kidney disease, blindness and neuropathy. The Commission, representing a partnership between private sector experts and specialists in the Federal agencies most active in clinical care, will provide the mechanism to address this epidemic which touches 1 out of every 9 Americans over the age of 20 and threatens to bankrupt our healthcare system.

As you know, similar legislation introduced in the 113<sup>th</sup> Congress (H.R. 1074) had 183 bi-partisan co-sponsors and we are working hard to exceed this number in the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress and have this legislation enacted. We appreciate your leadership on this critical healthcare issue and thank you on behalf of patients with diabetes and pre-diabetes and the constituencies that our organizations represent.

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 Podiatric Medical Association

American Society for Metabolic and Bariatric Surgery  
American Society of Bariatric Physicians  
American Society of Nephrology  
Bayer Corporation  
Board for Certification of Nutrition Specialists  
Boehringer Ingelheim  
Dexcom, Inc.  
Diabetes Hands Foundation  
diaTribe Foundation  
Eli Lilly and Company  
Endocrine Society  
GlaxoSmithKline  
Healthcare Leadership Council  
Health Monitor Network  
Johnson & Johnson  
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation  
Lexicon Pharmaceuticals, Inc.  
Medtronic  
Merck  
National Kidney Foundation  
Novo Nordisk  
Obesity Action Coalition  
Omada Health, Inc.  
Pediatric Endocrine Society  
Renal Physicians Association  
Results for Life  
Roche Diagnostics Diabetes Care  
The Obesity Society  
Vivus, Inc.  
VSP Vision Care  
YMCA of the USA