



September 12, 2018

Dear Senator:

On behalf of the 131,400 members of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), I am writing to support the *Opioid Crisis Response Act*.

The legislation includes key AAFP priorities: improved opioid-related and pain management research; prescription drug monitoring program improvements; opioid prescribing limit impact reporting; medication assisted treatment access improvements; and streamlined electronic prior authorization requirements.

The AAFP recognizes the intertwined public health issues of chronic pain management and the risks of opioid misuse. We understand that high levels of misuse and addiction persist with devastating consequences despite annual decreases in the number of opioids prescribed in the United States since 2010. Stemming the opioid crisis will be a long-term and complex effort for years to come, but the *Opioid Crisis Response Act* will create progress for prevention efforts, improved treatment access, and support for the needs of vulnerable populations.

We appreciate your work on this important bipartisan legislation. For more information, please contact Sonya Clay, Government Relations Representative, at 202-232-9033 or sclay@aafp.org.

Sincerely,

John Meigs, Jr., MD, FAAFP
Board Chair

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