



October 28, 2019

The Honorable Mark Warner  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Cassidy, MD  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Warner, Cassidy, Van Hollen, and Capito:

Thank you very much for sharing with us your draft bill titled the *Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute Reauthorization Act*. On behalf of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), which represents 134,600 family physicians and medical students across the country, we applaud your efforts to reauthorize the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) for another ten years, through fiscal year 2029.

As the only medical specialty society solely devoted to primary care, the AAFP is dedicated to supporting family medicine's integrated, comprehensive patient care to patients of all genders and every age. The AAFP supports the reauthorization of PCORI in order to fund the primary care research needed to extend our nation's capacity to design and implement vital patient-centered outcomes research and reap the dividends of that research to improve patient care.

Family physicians conduct approximately one in five office visits -- that's 192 million visits annually -- 48 percent more than to the next most visited specialty. Our health care system requires research into questions raised daily in those family physicians' offices. PCORI is needed to support studies that both involve and are relevant to primary care.

We look forward to working with you to reauthorize PCORI so that studies involve or are relevant to primary care—the largest patient care platform in the United States. For more information, please contact Teresa Baker at 202-232-9033 or [tbaker@aafp.org](mailto:tbaker@aafp.org).

Sincerely,

John S. Cullen, MD, FAAFP  
Board Chair

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