

Senator Lamar Alexander  
Chairman  
Senate HELP Committee  
SD-428 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-6300

Senator Patty Murray  
Ranking Member  
Senate HELP Committee  
SD-428 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510-6300

October 29, 2015

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray:

The undersigned organizations, representing millions of patients, advocates, caregivers and health care providers would like to enthusiastically endorse President Obama's nomination of Dr. Robert Califf as Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). We ask that the Senate take immediate action to confirm Dr. Califf.

The United States is at a pivotal moment in terms of public health, and the leadership that Dr. Califf will bring to the FDA will be paramount to assuring the safety, effectiveness, and security of human drugs, and helping to speed innovations that make medicines more effective, safer, and more affordable.

Dr. Califf's career has focused on vital issues that directly impact patients' lives. As Vice Chancellor of Clinical and Translational Research at Duke University, Dr. Califf led numerous landmark clinical studies. He became a nationally and internationally recognized expert in cardiovascular medicine, health outcomes research, health care quality, and clinical research. He is one of the nation's leaders in the growing field of translational research – key to making sure advances in science translate into medical care.

Dr. Califf also has had vast experience working with FDA. Prior to his appointment to Deputy Commissioner for Medical Products and Tobacco, he served as a member of the FDA Cardiorenal Advisory Panel and FDA Science Board's Subcommittee on Science and Technology. His prior work with the agency will prove invaluable and beneficial.

We believe that with Dr. Califf's diverse background, and his exemplary knowledge of clinical and translational medicine, he will continue to improve the FDA's drug approval process while ensuring that patients are receiving the safest and most effective treatments as quickly as possible. We urge his immediate confirmation.

Sincerely,

Action to Cure Kidney Cancer (ACKC)  
Addario Lung Cancer Medical Institute (ALCMI)  
Alliance for Aging Research  
The ALS Association  
Alpha-1 Foundation  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Association for Cancer Research (AACR)  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American Society of Clinical Oncology (ASCO)  
Association of American Cancer Institutes (AACI)  
Bert's Big Adventure  
Bonnie J. Addario Lung Cancer Foundation  
Cancer Support Community  
CancerCare  
Center for Medical Technology Policy  
CEO Roundtable on Cancer  
Chase After a Cure  
Childhood Cancer Guides  
COPD Foundation  
DC Candlelighters Childhood Cancer Foundation  
Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group (ECOG)  
Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered (FORCE)  
FasterCures  
Fight Colorectal Cancer

Friends of Cancer Research  
Grandparents In Action  
Hematology/Oncology Pharmacy Association  
Institute of Catholic Bioethics  
JDRF  
Kids v. Cancer  
Lung Cancer Alliance  
LUNGevity  
Lupus and Allied Diseases Association  
Martin Truex Jr. Foundation  
Mattie Miracle Cancer Foundation  
Men's Health Network  
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)  
National Brain Tumor Society  
National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD)  
National Patient Advocate Foundation  
Oncology Nursing Society  
Pac2  
Personalized Medicine Coalition  
Prevent Cancer Foundation  
Society for Women's Health Research (SWHR)  
Solving Kids' Cancer  
Sophia's Fund  
St. Baldrick's Foundation  
Stand Up To Cancer  
The Swifty Foundation