

February 4, 2014

The Honorable Tom Harkin
Chairman
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Ranking Member
Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Harkin and Ranking Member Alexander:

On behalf of the 21 undersigned organizations, we write in strong support of Dr. Vivek Hallegere Murthy's nomination as Surgeon General of the United States. We urge members of the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions to support his appointment so that the full Senate might quickly vote on his confirmation.

Dr. Murthy is a forward thinking and innovative health leader, with a strong commitment to public health. As a physician and a public health leader, he understands that improving the health of Americans requires a close partnership between what happens in the clinic and what happens in our communities. He is a strong and compassionate communicator, who will be able to guide the American people to a deeper understanding of how we can all take responsibility for leading healthier lives. Additionally, he will work interprofessionally with others in the clinical community to forge stronger partnerships between public health and the health care system, to promote health and prevent disease where people live, work and play.

Dr. Murthy has demonstrated this commitment in his personal work as well as his policy work. Dr. Murthy is a member of the Advisory Group on Prevention, Health Promotion, and Integrative and Public Health, and in this group, he has served as a strong leader among his colleagues, bringing a thoughtful and collaborative approach to the group's work.

Should he be confirmed, we would welcome the opportunity to work with Dr. Murthy as the Nation's Doctor in promoting our shared vision of interprofessional collaboration as a key means of working to improve the health of the public. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing
American Assembly for Men in Nursing
American Organization of Nurse Executives
American Psychiatric Nurses Association
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses

Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association
National American Arab Nurses Association
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialist
National Forum of a State Nursing Workforce Centers
National Nursing Centers Consortium
National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs
Oncology Nursing Society
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates
Wound Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society

CC:

Senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-MD)
Senator Patty Murray (D-WA)
Senator Bernard Sanders (I-VT)
Senator Robert P. Casey, Jr. (D-PA)
Senator Kay R. Hagan (D-NC)
Senator Al Franken (D-MN)
Senator Michael F. Bennet (D-CO)
Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI)
Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI)
Senator Christopher S. Murphy (D-CT)
Senator Elizabeth Warren (D-MA)
Senator Michael B. Enzi (R-WY)
Senator Richard Burr (R-NC)
Senator Johnny Isakson (R-GA)
Senator Rand Paul (R-KY)
Senator Orrin G. Hatch (R-UT)
Senator Pat Roberts (R-KS)
Senator Lisa Murkowski (R-AK)
Senator Mark Kirk (R-IL)
Senator Tim Scott (R-SC)