

Senator Charles Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
SH-322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
SR-317 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Patty Murray  
Chair  
Senate HELP Committee  
United States Senate  
154 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Richard Burr  
Ranking Member  
Senate HELP Committee  
United States Senate  
217 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington DC 20510

December 1, 2021

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader McConnell, Senator Patty Murray and Senator Richard Burr,

The undersigned organizations, representing millions of patients, advocates, caregivers, and health care providers would like to affirm our support for President Biden's nomination of Dr. Robert Califf as Commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). We ask that Senators in the Democratic and Republican caucuses and the Senate HELP Committee vote to confirm Dr. Califf.

The United States is at a pivotal moment in terms of public health. The FDA and patients need the leadership that Dr. Califf will bring as soon as possible and has already proven he can provide to the Agency.

Dr. Robert Califf, President Biden's nominee for FDA Commissioner, is not only well qualified, but has received broad support from both sides of the aisle. As you know, he has already served as FDA Commissioner in 2016 and inspired confidence and praise during his tenure.

We believe Dr. Califf will bring the leadership necessary to the FDA and continue assuring the safety, efficacy and security of treatments while also helping to speed innovation in a new international age for patient safety and public health. With the pandemic still raging, continuation of the FDA COVID-19 response is essential. The next commissioner will have to balance that unprecedented task with a myriad of other priorities, including the reauthorization of the user fee programs, developing a framework for appropriate oversight of tobacco and diagnostic tests and development of post-market data to monitor use of medical products. This task will require a seasoned administrator with knowledge of the agency, which Dr. Califf has.

Dr. Califf brings decades of experience as a world recognized leader in cardiovascular medicine. His in-depth work in clinical research and health outcomes research brings lived experience to the agency that will deeply inform his work. This is a challenging time for the FDA, with many complex and crucial projects under way. We need to confirm a new FDA Commissioner without delay. Dr. Califf has shown that he is a seasoned leader who through his previous professional experience is uniquely positioned to hit the ground running.

We know that Dr. Califf can maximize effectiveness for patients through the FDA. The FDA needs a strong commissioner

with broad support at such a pivotal time and we believe that Dr. Califf's return to the Agency will provide that leadership. Congress must ensure that FDA continues its important mission to provide patients with safe and effective treatments. We ask the Senate to do what is right by patients and immediately confirm Dr. Robert Califf as FDA commissioner.

Sincerely,

AliveAndKickn  
Alliance for Aging Research  
American Academy of Pediatrics  
American Society of Health-System Pharmacists  
American Association for Cancer Research  
Association of American Cancer Institutes  
Barth Syndrome Foundation  
Black Women's Health Imperative  
CARES Foundation  
COPD Foundation  
CureHHT  
CureSHANK  
Cutaneous Lymphoma Foundation.  
Dup15q Alliance  
EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases  
Fight Colorectal Cancer  
Friedreich's Ataxia Research Alliance  
Friends of Cancer Research  
Genetic Alliance  
GO2 Foundation for Lung Cancer  
Grandparents in Action  
Hannah's Hope Fund  
Hermansky-Pudlak Syndrome Network  
ICAN, International Cancer Advocacy Network  
Infusion Access Foundation  
International Pemphigus and Pemphigoid Foundation  
International WAGR Syndrome Association  
JDRF  
Kids With Heart National Association for Children's  
Heart Disorders, Inc.  
LUNgevity Foundation  
Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc.  
Melanoma Research Alliance  
Men's Health Network  
MLD Foundation  
MRSA Survivors Network

National Consumers League  
National Infusion Center Association  
National Organization for Rare Disorders  
NBIA Disorders Association  
NTM Info & Research  
Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy  
Personalized Medicine Coalition  
Phelan-McDermid Syndrome Foundation  
Prevent Cancer Foundation  
Prostate Cancer Foundation  
Research!America  
SADS Foundation  
Solving Kids' Cancer  
Susan G. Komen  
SYNGAP1 Foundation  
The American Heart Association  
Tuberous Sclerosis Alliance  
U.S. Pain Foundation  
US Against Alzheimer's