

April 22, 2010

The Honorable Daniel Inouye  
Chairman  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
S-128 U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Inouye:

Quality measures are critical tools for improving the quality and delivery of health care. Because quality measurement affects all stakeholders across the continuum of health care, federal funding of measure development and testing is essential.

The recently enacted Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) includes an authorization of \$75 million for FY 2011 to identify gaps in quality measurement and develop patient-centered measures to fill those gaps. The undersigned organizations request that your committee fully fund this authorization. These monies will allow the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to provide grants to eligible entities to develop and update quality measures to address specific health care populations and priorities.

The public and the health care professions need measures that meaningfully improve the quality of health care and can be maintained over time as evidence and technology evolve. This requires a well funded and transparent process and infrastructure. Appropriating \$75 million for FY 2011 is a critical first step in meeting this need.

We thank you in advance for your efforts to provide the necessary resources to build a patient-centered health care system focused on quality improvement.

Sincerely,

AMDA – Dedicated to Long Term Care Medicine  
American Academy of Dermatology Association  
American Academy of Family Physicians  
American Academy of Neurology Professional Association  
American Academy of Ophthalmology  
American Academy of Otolaryngology – Head and Neck Surgery  
American Academy of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation  
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National Committee for Quality Assurance  
National Partnership for Women and Families  
North American Spine Society  
Pacific Business Group on Health  
Renal Physicians Association  
Society for Vascular Surgery  
Society of Gynecologic Oncologists  
Society of Hospital Medicine  
Society of Nuclear Medicine  
The Joint Commission  
The Society of Thoracic Surgeons

April 22, 2010

The Honorable Thad Cochran  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
146A-U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Cochran:

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April 22, 2010

The Honorable Tom Harkin  
Chairman  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
U.S. Senate  
131 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Harkin:

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April 22, 2010

The Honorable David Obey  
Chairman  
House Appropriations Committee  
H-218 U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Obey:

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April 22, 2010

The Honorable Jerry Lewis  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
1016 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Lewis:

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April 22, 2010

The Honorable Todd Tiaht  
Ranking Member  
Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and  
Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2441 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Tiaht:

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