



November 11, 2014

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Charles Grassley
Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

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Dear Chairman Leahy and Senator Grassley:

As the current president of AMERSA, I am writing to express my strong support for the nomination of Acting Director Michael Botticelli to serve as permanent Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy. AMERSA, founded in 1976, is an organization whose mission is to improve health and well-being through interdisciplinary leadership in substance use education, research, clinical care and policy.

Mr. Botticelli is deeply familiar with the challenges of substance use in this country. He has proven himself to be the innovative and effective leader we need. During his tenure at ONDCP, Mr. Botticelli has successfully reached out across sectors and a broad range of stakeholders to advance solutions to addressing prevention, early identification and treatment of substance use disorders. As the Massachusetts Director of the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services, Mr. Botticelli championed innovative interventions in expanding addiction treatment. His record in Massachusetts has demonstrated his talents for working across agencies and jurisdictions to efficiently coordinate a comprehensive delivery of addiction services.

I strongly support Acting Director Michael Botticelli and urge the Committee to act swiftly to advance his nomination as Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Sincerely,

Daniel P. Alford, MD, MPH
President – AMERSA