



1001 N. Fairfax Street, Suite 201, Alexandria, VA 22314
Ph: 703.741.7686 • 800.548.0497 Fax: 703.741.7698 • 800.377.1136

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

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Senator Grassley:

On behalf of NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals, and our 47 national affiliates, I am writing in strong support of the nomination of Acting Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP), Michael Botticelli, to serve as the permanent Director of ONDCP. NAADAC represents the professional interests of more than 85,000 addiction counselors, educators, and other addiction-focused health care professionals in the United States, Canada, and abroad.

Mr. Botticelli has shown outstanding commitment, knowledge, and skill in his dedicated and effective work supporting Americans with substance use disorders for more than two decades, first in Massachusetts and now in Washington, D.C. Mr. Botticelli proven ability to bring together the elements necessary to build an efficient campaign for drug control across government and community organizations with law enforcement, prevention, treatment, and recovery support is critical, especially with the current opioid epidemic sweeping the nation.

In addition, Mr. Botticelli brings with him a unique perspective to the position, having been in recovery for more than 25 years, and understands all too well the effects addiction has on the community. He has had a major influence on ONDCP's shifting approach away from incarceration and toward treatment, a move that NAADAC strongly supports.

NAADAC believes Mr. Botticelli's knowledge, skills, and experience are aligned with the goals set forth in the President's Drug Strategy and will be a tremendous asset as we work together to improve the health care for millions of Americans. NAADAC strongly supports the confirmation of Mr. Botticelli to serve as the permanent Director of ONDCP and looks forward to working with the Senate Judiciary Committee and full Senate as the confirmation process moves forward.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Moreno Tuohy, NCAC II, CCDC III, SAP
Executive Director
NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals