

November 10, 2014

Senator Patrick Leahy  
Chairman  
U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee  
437 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Charles Grassley  
Ranking Member  
U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Leahy and Ranking Member Grassley:

We write to express our support for the nomination of Michael Botticelli to be the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). Given the many challenges presented by the epidemic of prescription drug abuse in our country, it is important that ONDCP have a strong leader. Michael Botticelli is an excellent choice for that job.

Acting Director Botticelli has the necessary knowledge and experience to excel as the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy and coordinate the myriad of federal agencies playing a role in the national drug strategy. He is known as a results-oriented leader who is able to work collaboratively with public health officials, criminal justice leaders and other key stakeholders to advance his objectives. In handling the prescription drug abuse problem, he has shown that he understands the need to balance availability of medication for those who need it while enacting a system of controls to ensure that drugs are neither diverted nor abused.

While leading the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services in Massachusetts, Mr. Botticelli faced the challenges of heroin and prescription drug abuse and helped to develop innovative responses to the crisis in his state. His wealth of experience in Massachusetts will serve him well as the entire nation now grapples with the same issues.

We strongly support the nomination of Michael Botticelli to service as the Director of ONDCP. Please let us know if we can be of help to you regarding this nomination or any other matter.

Sincerely,

*Partnership for Drug-Free Kids  
The American Academy of Pain Management  
The Center for Lawful Access and Abuse Deterrence  
Federation of State Medical Boards  
National Association of Chain Drug Stores  
The Pain Community  
American Society for Pain Management Nursing*