

February 8, 2013

The Honorable Harry Reid  
The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
The Honorable Max Baucus  
The Honorable Orrin Hatch

Dear Leaders and Senators:

We are writing jointly as all the living, Senate-confirmed, Administrators of Medicare and Medicaid (either CMS or its predecessor, HCFA) to strongly encourage you to confirm Marilyn Tavenner as the Administrator of CMS. In expenditures, CMS is now the single largest agency in the US Government, with its annual expenditures now approaching \$1 Trillion. Every major discussion of fiscal policy centers on these programs. It is important to the performance of Medicare, Medicaid and CMS's many other functions to have a confirmed Administrator who can provide steady and consistent leadership.

It is hard to imagine a candidate more worthy of bipartisan support than Marilyn Tavenner. She has served very effectively as the Deputy at CMS, and now as Acting Administrator, for more than three years. Both Members and staff in both Houses and on both sides of the aisle find her to be extremely responsive, very substantive, and remarkably easy to work with. CMS's programs are critical to millions of Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries and thousands of medical professionals. We believe that it is essential that CMS have a confirmed Administrator, yet for only five of the past twelve years has a confirmed CMS Administrator been in place.

Four of us served under Republican Presidents and three under Democratic Presidents, but we all agree that Marilyn Tavenner has been an excellent, highly professional Acting Administrator who is exceedingly worthy of Senate confirmation. Marilyn has a long track record, both at CMS and as Secretary of Health in Virginia, of working with policymakers of both parties to get things done.

We hope our combined support can further the process to confirm Marilyn to administer these important programs about which we all care so deeply.

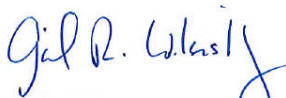
Sincerely,



Leonard D. Schaeffer (HCFA 1978-80)



William Roper (HCFA 1986-89)



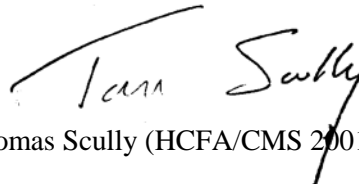
Gail Wilensky (HCFA 1990-92)



Bruce C. Vladeck (HCFA 1993-97)



Nancy-Ann Min DeParle (HCFA 1997-00)



Thomas Scully (HCFA/CMS 2001-04)



Mark McClellan (CMS 2004-06)