



Billy Tauzin

PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

May 21, 2008

The Honorable Herbert H. Kohl
United States Senate
330 Senate Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Kohl,

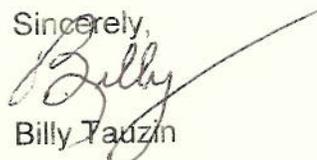
Thank you for allowing PhRMA to review your new draft of the Physician Payments Sunshine Act. I am grateful for your constructive engagement with all stakeholders during negotiations on this complex issue, and commend you for finding a way forward that addresses issues raised by a variety of stakeholders. I am pleased to inform you that PhRMA believes the new revised bill represents an acceptable compromise on the issue of transparency.

As we have discussed throughout this process, PhRMA's concern was that any legislation in this area appropriately balance the need for improved transparency against the need for preserving vital interactions with physicians that help in developing new medicines and improving the care of patients. Your substantial improvements to the legislation indicate that you understand and share our concerns.

Like any compromise, there are still areas where we may disagree, and we would welcome efforts to further improve your legislation. It is also critical that the many improvements made to the legislation are maintained so that we may continue our support for the bill -- especially the preemption provision on a uniform, national reporting standard. PhRMA believes that preempting local and state marketing reporting or disclosure laws that have been enacted or are pending avoids a confusing myriad of local, state, and federal requirements that confuse patients accessing the information and are overly burdensome and costly for those required to report.

Senator Kohl, I share your goal of improved transparency of interactions between biopharmaceutical companies and physicians that serves the interests of patients, physicians and our companies. I applaud your efforts and believe better information in this area will build confidence that these relationships are designed ultimately to benefit patients. I look forward to working with you as your revised legislation advances through the Congress.

Sincerely,



Billy Tauzin

Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America