



May 11, 2015

The Honorable Ed Whitfield
United States House of Representatives
2184 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joe Kennedy
United States House of Representatives
306 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Larry Bucshon, M.D.
United States House of Representatives
1005 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
United States House of Representatives
237 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Whitfield, Kennedy, Bucshon, and Pallone:

On behalf of the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB), I am writing to express our support for *H.R. 1725, The National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting (NASPER) Reauthorization Act of 2015*. The FSMB and its member medical boards share your goal of establishing, improving and maintaining interoperable state controlled substance monitoring systems that will help curb the nation's prescription drug abuse epidemic.

Founded in 1912, the FSMB is the national non-profit representing the 70 state medical and osteopathic boards of the United States and its territories. With offices in Texas and Washington, DC, the FSMB serves as the collective voice for state boards and supports them in protecting the public health and safety.

Prescription drug monitoring programs (PDMPs) are an integral component of our nation's strategy to combat the misuse, abuse, and diversion of prescription drugs, especially controlled substances. This much-needed reauthorization of *NASPER* will assist states in administering and coordinating interoperable PDMPs (with an emphasis on the advances in health information technology and electronic health reporting requirements), thereby providing prescribers with accurate and up-to-date prescription history information in order to better care for their patients as well as to identify those individuals that may be "doctor shopping." Timely access to PDMP data provides state regulators, law enforcement, and state professional licensing authorities with invaluable information that can be utilized to identify and crackdown on unlawful prescribers and pharmacies that endanger patients.

The FSMB and its member medical boards welcome the opportunity to partner with federal and state agencies to strengthen measures that safeguard the public through increased physician / patient awareness and education, as state medical boards often play a key role in training prescribers on the use and value of PDMPs.

The FSMB is pleased to offer its strong support for *The National All Schedules Prescription Electronic Reporting Reauthorization Act of 2015*, and we commend you for your bi-partisan leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Humayun J. Chaudhry, DO, MACP".

Humayun J. Chaudhry, DO, MACP
FSMB President and CEO