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April 20, 2016

The Honorable Joe Pitts
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
House Energy and Commerce Committee
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Gene Green
2322A Rayburn House Office Building
House Energy and Commerce Committee
US House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Pitts and Ranking Member Green:

The American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) applauds the considerable attention and consideration the Committee has dedicated to the opioid misuse and overdose epidemic. ASAM believes it is essential that the Committee swiftly passes the *Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Expansion and Modernization Act*.

ASAM is a professional medical society representing over 3,800 physicians dedicated to increasing access and improving quality of addiction treatment, educating physicians and the public, supporting research and prevention and promoting the appropriate role of physicians in the care of patients with addictions

ASAM physicians have worked diligently with Congressmen Bucshon and Tonko on a process to develop the *Opioid Use Disorder Treatment Expansion and Modernization Act*. We highly value the transparent process in which this bill was negotiated. While ASAM members prefer the buprenorphine patient limits included in the *Recovery Enhancement for Addiction Treatment Act* as reported by the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee on March 16th, we believe the Energy and Commerce Committee's markup today is an important first step by the House in addressing this important issue.

We are committed to helping the Congress move legislation this year that will increase the caps on buprenorphine patient prescribing. To that end, we pledge the expertise of ASAM and our members as the process moves forward to finalize the legislation.

We look forward to working with you to pass legislation combatting the opioid epidemic this year. Please reach out to ASAM's CEO, Penny Mills (pmills@asam.org) if we can be of further help in this or other addiction related matters.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Jeffrey Goldsmith, MD". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

R. Jeffrey Goldsmith, MD, DLFAPA, FASASM
President, American Society of Addiction Medicine

CC: The Honorable Larry Bucshon
The Honorable Paul Tonko