

July 15, 2015

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
The Honorable Harry Reid
The Honorable Orrin Hatch
The Honorable Ron Wyden

Dear Leaders:

We are writing jointly as all the living Senate -confirmed Administrators of the Medicare and Medicaid programs (either CMS or its predecessor, HCFA) to strongly encourage you to confirm Andrew Slavitt as the Administrator of CMS. CMS is the single largest agency in the US Government, with annual spending authority now well exceeding \$1 Trillion. It is important to Medicare, Medicaid and to the performance of CMS and its many other functions, to have a confirmed Administrator who can provide steady and consistent leadership for the agency.

Andrew Slavitt has demonstrated that he is a candidate worthy of bipartisan support. He has served very ably as the principal Deputy Administrator at CMS and is responsible for a number of creative reforms. His extensive experience in the private sector, and the demonstrated ability to manage CMS effectively, give us confidence that he would be an excellent Administrator. The decisions of the CMS Administrator affect millions of Americans every day: from Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries, to people newly insured by the Federal or State marketplaces, to medical professionals, health system administrators, and entrepreneurs. It is essential that CMS have a confirmed Administrator if the agency is to be well managed-- yet for only about half of the past fifteen years has a confirmed CMS Administrator been in place.

Four of us served under Republican Presidents and four under Democratic Presidents. We are united in the belief that Andrew Slavitt has the ability to lead CMS effectively, and to work with Congress and everyone in the healthcare system to get things done.

As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the enactment of Medicare and Medicaid, CMS's strong stewardship of these important programs is more critical than ever. We hope our combined support will give you confidence that Andrew Slavitt's nomination should be confirmed by the Senate.

Sincerely,

Leonard D. Schaeffer (HCFA 1978-80)
Dr. William Roper (HCFA 1986-89)
Gail Wilensky (HCFA 1990-92)
Bruce Vladek (HCFA 1993-97)
Nancy-Ann DeParle (HCFA 1997-00)
Thomas Scully (HCFA/CMS 2001-04)
Dr. Mark McClellan (CMS 2004-06)
Marilyn Tavenner (CMS 2013-15)