

Consensus Statement Supporting the National Pain Care Policy Act of 2009

H.R. 756

Pain touches every member of our society at some point in life. The National Center for Health Statistics estimates that 76.2 million one in every four Americans have suffered from pain that lasts longer than 24 hours; millions more suffer from acute pain. Left untreated, pain can rob quality of life and affect every aspect of daily living, including work, sleep, and social relations.

NOW is the time to educate healthcare professionals, people in pain and their loved ones, as well as the general public about the importance of achieving appropriate pain assessment and management and addressing the barriers that prevent pain control in every instance, particularly among minority and other medically underserved populations, and to coordinate research on the causes of pain and development of improved therapies to manage it adequately.

As members and representatives of the pain care community, the undersigned organizations support and urge passage of the National Pain Care Policy Act, which includes the following four actions:

- 1. Convene an Institute of Medicine Conference on Pain Care, with a Report Summarizing Findings and Recommendations;**
- 2. Expand through the Pain Consortium at the National Institutes of Health an Aggressive Program for Basic and Clinical Research on Causes and Potential Treatments of Pain.**
- 3. Create an Education and Training Grant Program to Improve Health Professionals' Understanding and Ability to Assess and Appropriately Treat Pain; and**
- 4. Develop and Implement a National Pain Management Public Outreach and Awareness Campaign.**

Signed,

Alabamians for Pain Relief
Alliance for Prostate Cancer Prevention
Alliance of State Pain Initiatives
American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine
American Academy of Pain Management
American Academy of Pain Medicine
American Academy of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

American Chronic Pain Association – Bradford Vermont Support Group
American Chronic Pain Association
American Headache Society
American Pain Foundation
American Pain Society
American Pharmacists Association
American RSDHope
American Society for Pain Management Nursing
American Society for Pain Management Nursing - Connecticut Chapter
American Society for Pain Management Nursing - St. Louis Chapter
American Society for Pain Management Nursing – Pittsburg Chapter
American Society of Anesthesiologists
American Society of Pain Educators
American Stroke Foundation
American Syringomyelia Alliance Project
Arizona Pain Initiative
Better Ending Partnership
Beyond Chronic Pain
Bombobeach.com Adhesions Support Group
Boston Scientific
Bradford Vermont Support Group of the American Chronic Pain Association
Carolinas Center for Hospice and End of Life Care
Center for Practical Bioethics
Cephalon, Inc.
Children's Hospice & Palliative Care Coalition
Citizen Advocacy Center
Colorado Pain Consortium/Initiative
Comfort Care Unlimited
Compassion & Choices
Connecticut Pain Initiative
DC Pain Initiative
Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome National Foundation
Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome Network CARES INC.
Endo Pharmaceuticals Inc.
Fibromyalgia Outreach Foundation of Central Florida
Florida Pain Initiative
For Grace
Georgia Pain Initiative
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association
HealthSaaS.net
Hemophilia Federation of America

Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association
Idaho Pain Initiative
Indiana Hospice & Palliative Care Organization
Intercultural Cancer Council Caucus
International Association for Hospice and Palliative Care
Jacobs Light Foundation
Kansas LIFE Project
Kansas Pain Initiative
King Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Lance Armstrong Foundation
MAGNUM: The National Migraine Association
Maine Pain Initiative
Maryland Pain Initiative
Massachusetts Pain Initiative
Medtronic, Inc.
Michigan Cancer Pain Initiative
Mid-Valley Pain Clinic
Missouri/Arkansas Interstitial Cystitis
Missouri End-of-Life Coalition
Missouri Pain Initiative
Montana Pain Initiative
National Alliance of African American Prostate Cancer Advocates
National CFS & Fibromyalgia Association
National Fibromyalgia Research Association
National Foundation for the Treatment of Pain
National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization
National Pain Foundation
National Vulvodynia Association
New Hampshire Pain Initiative
New Mexico Pain Initiative
North Carolina Pain Initiative
Northern California Pain Initiative
Oregon Pain Management Commission
Pain and Policy Studies Group
Pain Care Coalition
Pain Connection
Pain Treatment Topics
P.A.N.D.O.R.A, Inc
Pennsylvania Cancer Pain Initiative
Pennsylvania Prostate Cancer Coalition
Purdue Pharma L.P.
Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome Association of America

Southern California Cancer Pain Initiative
Texas Pain Advocacy & Information Network
There is Hope...For Chronic Pain
The TMJ Association
University of CT John Dempsey Hospital
Virginia Cancer Pain Initiative
Washington Alaska Pain Initiative
Western Pain Society
West Virginia Pain Initiative
Wisconsin Pain Initiative
XL Hospice, Inc.