

September 29, 2021

The Honorable Cory Booker
717 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tim Scott
104 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Danny Davis
2159 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Michael Burgess
2161 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senators Booker and Scott and Representatives Davis and Burgess:

The undersigned organizations, all committed to improving outcomes for individuals with sickle cell disease (SCD), look to you for needed leadership in addressing the needs of this community. As we recognize the SCD patient and provider communities during Sickle Cell Disease Awareness Month, we remain deeply concerned that those living with SCD have been impacted disproportionately by COVID-19 and continue to lack access to quality, state-of-the-art outpatient and preventive care for their disease. The four of you have a history of working in a bicameral and bipartisan manner to better the lives of people with SCD. Today, we write to ask you to join forces again and introduce legislation authorizing the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to quickly develop a program for Medicaid condition that lowers the level of oxygen in the blood, ~~in~~ ~~and~~ ~~in~~ some cases premature death. The suppressed immune system and co-existing medical conditions occurring in individuals

organizations are committed to seeking co-sponsors and working with the committees of jurisdiction to move the policy and program forward.

Please consider all of the organizations listed below as a resource and keep us apprised on how we can assist you. Thank you for your consideration and for all of your efforts to improve the lives of individuals with this debilitating disease.

AABB

Agios Pharmaceuticals

American Academy of Emergency Medicine

American College of Emergency Physicians

American Psychological Association

American Red Cross

American Society for Clinical Pathology

American Society for Transplantation and Cellular Therapy

American Society of Hematology

American Society of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology

America's Blood Centers

ASH Research Collaborative

Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses

Association of Public Health Laboratories

Axis Advocacy

Bluebird bio

Foundation for Sickle Cell Disease Research

Global Blood Therapeutics

International Association of Sickle Cell Nurses and Professional Associates

Martin Center Sickle Cell Research Society
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