

December 2, 2019

Senator Lamar Alexander
Chairman
Senate HELP Committee
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6300

Senator Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Senate HELP Committee
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-6300

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the American Association for Cancer Research (AACR), and the 44,000 laboratory researchers, physician-scientists, other health care professionals, and patient advocates who constitute our national and international membership, I urge you and your colleagues on the Senate HELP Committee to approve the nomination of Stephen M. Hahn, MD, to lead the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

Dr. Hahn possesses an extraordinary dedication and commitment to cancer patients, and the AACR is extremely confident that he will be an outstanding leader for the FDA. Dr. Hahn is board certified in both radiation and medical oncology, and he has consistently advocated for a drug review process at the FDA that is both science-directed and patient-focused.

Dr. Hahn has been a member of the AACR since 1999. He served as an inaugural member of the AACR Radiation Science and Medicine Working Group Steering Committee and the AACR Radiation Oncology Task Force. Dr. Hahn has also served as a member of other AACR committees. He also served with distinction in 2018 as cochair of the Workshop on Clinical Development of Drug-Radiotherapy Combinations held in partnership with the FDA, the AACR, and the American Society for Radiation Oncology (ASTRO).

The unprecedented research opportunities that exist today, coupled with our rapidly improving ability to translate these scientific advances into improved treatments for patients, require an experienced and highly effective scientific administrator, as well as a visionary and innovative leader. Dr. Hahn's impressive qualifications make him ideally poised to succeed at the FDA.

I urge you to vote in favor of Dr. Hahn's nomination so that the full Senate can vote to confirm him before the end of the year.

Respectfully,



Margaret Foti, PhD, MD (hc)
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Senate HELP Committee