

January 10, 2013

Jacob J. Lew
Office of the Chief of Staff
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Lew:

We are writing to urge the Administration to fully implement Section 1128G of the Social Security Act, the Physician Payments Sunshine Provision, which was added as Section 6002 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA).

We write on behalf of the pharmaceutical and medical device companies Medtronic Inc. and Eli Lilly & Co., the National Coalition on Health Care, which collectively represents 100 million Americans including consumers and patients, and The Pew Charitable Trusts, an independent, non-profit organization that applies a rigorous, analytical approach to improve public policy, inform the public, and stimulate civic life.

The Sunshine Act has broad support from major medical, consumer, and industry groups, and will bring needed transparency to the financial relationships between physicians and pharmaceutical manufacturers and medical device companies.

Similar transparency and disclosure laws have successfully been in place in select states since the early 1990s. Many companies have already invested significant resources in order to prepare for compliance with the Sunshine provision.

The original statute required that covered entities begin collecting payment information as of January 1, 2012, and to submit the information to HHS by March 31, 2013. However, extraordinary delays in rule-making have made these deadlines infeasible.

We request that final regulations be released as soon as possible. The provision will protect patients and help restore trust in our health care system.

Sincerely,



John Rother
President & CEO
National Coalition on Health Care



Tom Schumacher
Vice President, Chief Ethics and
Compliance Officer
Medtronic, Inc.



Elizabeth O'Farrell
Controller, Senior Vice President
Eli Lilly & Co.



Allan Coukell
Director of Medical Programs
The Pew Charitable Trusts