



## Sound Policy. Quality Care.

May 20, 2015

The Honorable Fred Upton  
House Energy and Commerce Committee  
Representatives  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joseph R. Pitts  
United States House of Representatives  
Representatives  
420 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Diana DeGette  
United States House of Representatives  
2368 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Jr.  
United States House of

237 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Gene Green  
United States House of

2470 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

### **RE: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act Comments related to Physician Sunshine (Section 3041)**

Dear Chairman Upton, Ranking Member Pallone, Health Subcommittee Chairman Pitts, Health Subcommittee Ranking Member Green, and Representative DeGette:

The undersigned members of the Alliance of Specialty Medicine (the Alliance), a coalition of medical specialty societies representing more than 100,000 physicians and surgeons, write to express our strong support for the inclusion of Section 3041 in H.R. 6. This provision would clarify that independent medical educational programs and materials are exempt from reporting under the Physician Payments Sunshine Act.

The Alliance appreciates that this provision will address the onerous reporting required by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). We are concerned that the current CMS

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American Academy of Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery • American Association of Neurological Surgeons  
American College of Mohs Surgery • American Gastroenterological Association • American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Association  
American Society of Cataract & Refractive Surgery • American Society of Echocardiography • American Society of Plastic Surgeons  
American Urological Association • Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations • Congress of Neurological Surgeons  
National Association of Spine Specialists • Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions • Society for Excellence in Eyecare

interpretation of the Sunshine Act impacts the dissemination of medical textbooks, peer-reviewed medical reprints and journals, and access to independent continuing medical education (CME).

Physicians must have access to the most up-to-date independent medical knowledge to support their delivery of high quality patient care. We strongly support this provision and its inclusion in HR. 6, given that it would clarify that independent certified and/or accredited CME is exempt from Sunshine Act reporting.

The Alliance stands ready to work with you toward passage of this important legislation.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Facial Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery  
American Association of Neurological Surgeons  
American College of Mohs Surgery  
American Gastroenterological Association  
American Society for Dermatologic Surgery Association  
American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery  
American Society of Echocardiography  
American Society of Plastic Surgeons  
American Urological Association  
Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations  
Congress of Neurological Surgeons  
Society for Cardiovascular Angiography and Interventions  
Society for Excellence in Eyecare

Cc: The Honorable Michael C. Burgess, MD, The Honorable Peter DeFazio