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The Honorable Lamar Alexander
Chairman
Senate Health, Education, Labor and
Pensions Committee
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member
Senate Health, Education, Labor and
Pensions Committee
428 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Alexander and Ranking Member Murray:

The American Medical Association (AMA) is very pleased to offer our strong support for the nomination of Jerome Adams, MD, to serve as Surgeon General of the United States, Public Health Service.

As Indiana State Health Commissioner since 2014, Dr. Adams has organized and led effective responses to a number of serious public health threats. In response to an opioid epidemic and related HIV outbreak in his state, Dr. Adams has worked with the medical profession to combat overprescribing, facilitated a needle exchange program to help stop the spread of HIV and hepatitis C, and led efforts to build and sustain HIV testing, treatment and counseling capabilities in the affected areas. As Co-chair of the Indiana Perinatal Quality Improvement Collaborative Governing Council, he has also championed efforts to reduce infant mortality. When patients who had contracted Ebola in an African epidemic began to appear in the United States, he spearheaded a monitoring program for returning travelers.

Dr. Adams received a Master of Public Health Degree from the University of California-Berkeley and a medical degree from the Indiana University School of Medicine, where he currently serves as an assistant professor of anesthesiology. He has also maintained an active clinical practice on the staff at Eskenazi Health, where he is chair of the Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee. He has played an active role in organized medicine, including terms on the boards of the Indiana State Medical Association and the Indiana Society of Anesthesiologists and as a member of the AMA's House of Delegates.

The AMA believes that Dr. Adams would bring unique experience and energy to the office of the Surgeon General. We look forward to his prompt consideration and confirmation in the Senate. If we can be of assistance in achieving that goal, please contact Aiken Hackett, Division of Congressional Affairs, at (202) 789-7432 or aiken.hackett@ama-assn.org.

Sincerely,

James L. Madara, MD