

April 13, 2009

The Honorable Jay Inslee
United States Congress
403 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Inslee,

On behalf of The Endocrine Society, representing more than 14,000 researchers and clinicians in the field of endocrinology, we applaud your introduction of The National Diabetes Coordinator Act. The Society greatly appreciates your strong leadership and commitment to enhancing our nation's efforts to combat the escalating health crisis we face in diabetes.

The Endocrine Society is the world's oldest, largest, and most active organization devoted to research on hormones and the clinical practice of endocrinology. Our membership includes every professional phase involved in treating diabetes from "bench to bedside." As such, we take a strong interest in public policy that is focused on diabetes care and can provide a unique perspective about how to improve our delivery of care. As you know, 23.6 million children and adults in the United States, or 7.8% of the population, have diabetes. Unfortunately, this number is on the rise and we believe a strong position from the federal government is needed to address the growing public health concern.

We believe The National Diabetes Coordinator Act can help in our fight against diabetes by developing a coordinated national strategy to maximize research and ensure diabetes-related programs throughout the federal government are properly coordinated and efficiently utilized. The Endocrine Society is proud to endorse this legislation and looks forward to working with you to enhance our nation's response to the diabetes crisis.

Please do not hesitate to contact The Endocrine Society if we may be of any assistance to you or your staff as you work to advance your legislation through Congress. Stephanie Kutler, Director of Government Affairs at the Society, may be reached at 301-941-0254 or skutler@endo-society.org.

Sincerely,



Robert M. Carey, MD, MACP
President
The Endocrine Society