



May 31, 2013

The Honorable Robert Aderholt  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development,  
Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Sam Farr  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development,  
Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Aderholt and Ranking Member Farr:

As the Subcommittee prepares the FY 2014 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies appropriations bill, we urge you to approve the authorized level of user fees for the Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) oversight of tobacco products and to oppose any effort to limit the authority that Congress granted the FDA under the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act (Tobacco Control Act).

Prior to 2009, tobacco products were virtually unregulated even though they were known to be highly addictive and dangerous to health. Congress, on a bipartisan basis, recognized that tobacco products should be overseen by an agency with expertise in assessing health risks and experience promulgating science-based regulation. The Tobacco Control Act gave FDA authority to regulate the manufacture, marketing, distribution and sale of tobacco products in a manner appropriate for the protection of public health.

We appreciate that every FDA appropriation bill approved by the House of Representatives since the enactment of the Tobacco Control Act has contained the full authorized amount of user fees and has not included language that would restrict FDA's current authority to oversee tobacco products. This year, we urge the Subcommittee to approve the \$534 million in user fees that the Tobacco Control Act authorizes FDA to collect and spend for tobacco-related activities for FY 2014. With the enactment of the Tobacco Control Act, Congress recognized that determining the appropriate level of oversight of different tobacco products is best achieved by FDA using a science-based process. We also urge the Subcommittee to not restrict FDA's authority under the Tobacco Control Act, including its authority to oversee all tobacco products.

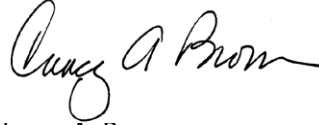
Tobacco use is the leading preventable cause of death in the United States and is responsible for nearly \$100 billion in health care costs every year. About one in five heart disease deaths, nearly one in three cancer deaths, and nine in ten deaths from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) are caused by tobacco use, and more than 8 million Americans are living with a tobacco-caused disease. With the support of this

Subcommittee, we believe the Tobacco Control Act will help reduce tobacco use and the health and economic toll it takes on the nation.

Sincerely,



Christopher W. Hansen  
President  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network



Nancy A. Brown  
Chief Executive Officer  
American Heart Association



Harold P. Wimmer  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
American Lung Association



Matthew L. Myers  
President  
Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids

Cc: Members of the House Committee on Appropriations