Dear Colleague:

Thank you for attending the 11th Annual Urology Joint Advocacy Conference, co-sponsored by the American Association of Clinical Urologists (AACU) and American Urological Association (AUA).

The Urology Joint Advocacy Conference is the only advocacy meeting specifically devoted to urology’s federal legislative agenda. The conference provides an opportunity for you to meet with members of Congress and their staffs to advocate on behalf of your patients and your profession. Advocating as a united group for urology has a significant impact on Capitol Hill.

This year’s conference includes presentations from members of Congress, health policy experts and Hill staffers. It also includes interactive sessions designed to prepare urologists to advocate for the specialty and effectively communicate with elected officials throughout the year.

UROPAC, Urology’s Advocate on Capitol Hill, plays a key role in urology’s advocacy strategies and will sponsor the Monday luncheon keynote speaker and Monday evening reception.

The AACU and AUA are committed to training our members to become strong advocates for our patients and our profession. Declining reimbursements, attacks on our commitment to the highest quality patient care, stifling government regulations that dictate how we practice medicine, and a decrease in funding for research and education are just a few of the reasons we must inform and educate Congress that urology is an integral part of our healthcare system. Are you ready to get involved in the legislative process?

Welcome to Washington, D.C.

Martin Dineen, MD, FACS    David Penson, MD, MPH
President, AACU    Public Policy Chair, AUA

Mark Stovsky, MD, MBA    Christopher Gonzalez, MD, MBA, FACS
Immediate-Past President, AACU    Public Policy Vice-Chair, AUA
2016 Urology Joint Advocacy Conference Key Contacts

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Prime Advocacy
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Sunday, February 28, 2016

11:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  Welcome
Crystal Room
Martin Dineen, MD, FACS, President, American Association of Clinical Urologists (AACU)
William Gee, MD, FACS, President, American Urological Association (AUA)

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.  Luncheon Address
Crystal Room
Jonathan Turley, J.B. & Maurice C. Shapiro Chair of Public Interest Law, George Washington University Law School

1:00 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.  Break

1:15 p.m. - 1:35 p.m.  2016 Urology Joint Advocacy Priorities Overview
Ballroom
Jeffrey Frankel, MD, Health Policy Chair, AACU
James Ulchaker, MD, FACS, Chair, Legislative Affairs Committee, AUA

1:35 p.m. - 2:35 p.m.  Legislative Priority: Post-SGR – MACRA/MIPS/APMs
Ballroom
Moderator:
Martin Dineen, MD, FACS, President, AACU
Panelists:
Robert Jasak, JD, Vice President, Coverage and Payment Policy, Hart Health Strategies
Sandy Marks, Assistant Director, Federal Affairs, American Medical Association
Frank Opelka, MD, FACS, Medical Director, Division of Advocacy and Health Policy, American College of Surgeons

2:35 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.  Instructions for Hill Meeting Delegations
Ballroom
Bobbie Jo Ballard, Prime Advocacy

2:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  Break

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.  Legislative Priority: Urology Workforce and Graduate Medical Education
Ballroom
Moderator:
Patrick McKenna, MD, FACS, FAAP, State Society Network Chair, AACU
Panelists:
Leonard Marquez, Director of Government Relations, Association of American Medical Colleges
Paul Rockey, MD, MPH, Scholar in Residence Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education

4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.  Keynote Address
Ballroom
Neal Dunn, MD, Republican Candidate for U.S. Congress (FL-2)

5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.  Welcome Reception
Crystal Room
Monday, February 29, 2016

7:30 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
Breakfast
Ballroom

8:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
UROPAC Update
Ballroom
Arthur Tarantino, MD, UROPAC Chair

9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
Congressional Panel: Men's Health at the Federal Level
Moderator:
Steven Kaplan, MD, FACS, Research Advocacy Committee Chair, AUA
Panelists:
Thomas Saunders, The Honorable Donald Payne, Jr./staff (D-NJ-10) Co-Chair of the Congressional Men’s Health Caucus
Adam Buckalew, The Honorable Markwayne Mullin/staff (R-OK-2) House Energy & Commerce Committee, Co-Chair of the Congressional Men’s Health Caucus
Brandon Leonard, MA, Director of Strategic Initiatives, Men’s Health Network
Jason Jameson, MD, Board of Directors, American Society of Men’s Health

10:00 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.
Legislative Priority: In-Office Ancillary Services Exception
Ballroom
Deepak Kapoor, MD, Chairman of Health Policy, LUGPA

10:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Break

10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.
Telemedicine: A Primer
Ballroom
Eugene Rhee, MD, MBA, Western Section Representative, AACU Board of Directors
Aaron Spitz, MD, AUA Delegate to the American Medical Association House of Delegates

11:15 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.
Instructions for Hill Meeting Delegations
Ballroom
Jeffrey Frankel, MD, Health Policy Chair, AACU
James Ulchaker, MD, FACS, Chair, Legislative Affairs Committee, AUA

11:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Break

12:00pm-1:15pm
UROPAC Luncheon
Crystal Room

12:15 p.m. - 1:15 p.m.
UROPAC Keynote Address
Crystal Room
Stuart Rothenberg, Founding Editor and Publisher of the Rothenberg & Gonzales Political Report

1:15 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Break

1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
Legislative Priority: PSA Advocacy and USPSTF Reform
Moderator:
Jonathan Henderson, MD, Southeastern Section Representative, AACU Board of Directors, Member, LUGPA Board of Directors
Panelists:
David Penson, MD, MPH, Public Policy Council Chair, American Urological Association
Kim Beer, Director of Public Policy, Susan G. Komen
Jake Krilovich, Director of Government Relations, ZERO The End of Prostate Cancer
Elected Officials:
The Honorable Marsha Blackburn, (R- TN-7), Vice Chair, House Energy Ballroom & Commerce Committee, House Budget Committee

The Honorable Phil Roe, MD (R-TN-1), Co-chair GOP Doctors Caucus, House Education and the Workforce Committee, House Veterans’ Affairs Committee

3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Break

3:15 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Russell Carson Memorial Lecture
Ballroom
The Honorable Bill Cassidy, MD (R-LA), Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, Senate Committee on Appropriations, Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs

4:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m. Advocacy Training
Ballroom
Brad Fitch, President & CEO, Congressional Management Foundation

4:45 p.m. General Session Adjourned

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. UROPAC Reception
Crystal Room
2015 and 2016 donors welcome

Tuesday, March 1, 2016

7:45 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. Breakfast & Last Minute Logistics
Ballroom

9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. Meetings on Capitol Hill

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Luncheon on Capitol Hill
Senate Dirksen G-11

1:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Meetings on Capitol Hill

5:00 p.m. Conference Concludes
Speakers

**Kimberly Beer** serves as Director, Public Policy for Susan G. Komen. As Director, Beer leads Komen's legislative and advocacy agenda on Capitol Hill and with federal agencies, focusing on increasing awareness about breast cancer, increasing federal funding for research and ensuring access to care for those who have breast cancer. She also oversees state advocacy efforts in collaboration with Komen's 100 + affiliate and grassroots networks. Prior to joining Susan G. Komen, she was Director, Advocacy at the Arthritis Foundation and Assistant Director of Federal Affairs at the American Academy of Physician Assistants (AAPA). She also worked as Senior Legislative Assistant for Governor Pedro Rosselló, of Puerto Rico, and as Legislative Assistant for Congressman Luis G. Fortuño (PR).

Beer received a Bachelor of Arts in Politics from the Catholic University of America, a Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology from Argosy University's Professional School of Psychology and completed two post-graduate Certificate Programs at the Johns Hopkins University in Clinical Community Counseling and Counseling At Risk Youth. She is a Licensed Graduate Professional Counselor (LGPC) (inactive) in the state of Maryland.

**Marsha Blackburn** learned that the promise of our nation depends on each generation of Americans working hard to leave the country a better place than they found it while growing up. As a small business woman, author, mother, grandmother, and Member of Congress, Marsha Blackburn has dedicated her service to the sacred obligation all citizens have to their communities: making Tennessee and America a better, more prosperous, and freer place.

Congressman Blackburn began her elected service career in 1998 as a Tennessee State Senator. Blackburn's Senate career was marked by her commitment to fiscal common sense and government accountability. She became known to her constituents for holding “budget school” in her district and across the state; identifying waste, proposing realistic spending cuts, and offering solutions for a state in a budget crunch.

Congressman Blackburn is often selected by her colleagues to lead the charge for common sense reform. In February 2010 she was selected to represent conservative views on health care reform at the President's Blair House Summit. She has served as a Republican deputy whip for every Congress, holds a seat on the House Energy and Commerce Committee serving as Vice Chair – the committee has jurisdiction over health care, energy regulation, and telecommunications issues and is Chairman of the Select Investigative Panel on Infant Lives. In 2006 the Independent Electrical Contractors recognized her as their Lawmaker of the Year.

In 2012, Health IT Now presented her with the HiTN Innovation Award for her work in support of innovative solutions to our most pressing healthcare problems. Marsha has also been honored by the Family Research Council, received the Distinguished Leader Award from the Susan B. Anthony List for her pro-life, pro-family work, and was recognized by the Association of Children's Hospitals and the American College of Radiology for her leadership on healthcare issues. In April 2013 at the "Women Run the World" Half Marathon in New York City, More Magazine recognized Blackburn for her service in government by honoring her as one of 10 women who are making a difference in the world. The Washington Post has named her one of the 40 Most Interesting Women in Politics and the Independent Women’s Forum has named her the 2014 Woman of Valor.
Bill Cassidy, MD is the United States Senator for Louisiana. Dr. Cassidy grew up in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and attended Louisiana State University (LSU) for undergraduate and Medical School. For nearly three decades, Dr. Cassidy has provided care for uninsured and underinsured patients in Louisiana’s charity hospital system. During this time, he co-founded the Greater Baton Rouge Community Clinic, a clinic providing free dental and health care to the working uninsured. He also created a private-public partnership to vaccinate 36,000 greater Baton Rouge area children against Hepatitis B at no cost to the schools or parents. In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, Dr. Cassidy led a group of health care volunteers to convert an abandoned K-Mart building into an emergency health care facility, providing basic health care to hurricane evacuees.

In 1990, Dr. Cassidy joined LSU Medical School teaching medical students and residents at Earl K. Long hospital, a hospital for the uninsured. In 2006, he was elected to the Louisiana State Senate. In 2008, he was elected to the United States House of Representatives to represent Louisiana’s Sixth Congressional District. In 2014, he was elected to the U.S. Senate. He serves on the Health Education Labor & Pensions (HELP), Energy and Natural Resources, Appropriations, Veterans Affairs and Joint Economic Committees.

Dr. Cassidy is married to Dr. Laura Cassidy, and they have three children. Laura is a retired general surgeon specializing in breast cancer. She helped found a public charter school to teach children with dyslexia. Bill, Laura, and their family attend church at the Chapel on the Campus.

Adam Buckalew serves as deputy chief of staff for Oklahoma U.S. Rep. Markwayne Mullin. In this leadership role, he helps formulate and direct the second-term congressman’s priorities before the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, guiding the intersection of the legislative and communications strategies.

Mr. Buckalew previously worked as a lead government affairs representative for a nationwide, member-based medical association, serving 104,000 physicians and students. Working together with the association’s Washington team, he managed issues in front of key House and Senate committees as well as congressional leadership offices. Additionally, Adam represented the association’s largest specialty college.

Prior to this, Mr. Buckalew was the communications director and a legislative assistant to Mississippi U.S. Rep. Gregg Harper, where he established an extensive network of congressional, executive branch, and off-Hill stakeholders. Adam also advised Mississippi Gov. Phil Bryant when he served as the Magnolia State’s lieutenant governor.

Outside of the office, he is an active member of National Community Church (NCC), a mentor through the Southeast White House – where Adam has been matched with the same student for over four years – and an avid runner.
Speakers

**Martin Dineen, MD, FACS** has been a leader in urologic health policy for over two decades. Beginning in the middle 1990’s as a member of the AUA Terminology Committee (CRC of today), Dr. Dineen has remained an active member of several AUA committees related to issues of health policy, including Chairman/Founder of the NIAW from which he retired after 17 years this past spring.

In addition, Dr. Dineen has been very active in, and committed to, organized medicine and the support of urology by serving as: President of the AACU (2015/2016), Southeastern Section of the AUA (2008/2009), and Florida Urological Society (2002/2003). He has served as a member of the Board of Directors of the Urology Care Foundation since its inception in 2012, was an early proponent of Ambulatory Surgical Center (ASC) development and the movement of inpatient urological services to the outpatient environment.

Dr. Dineen received his medical degree and residency training from the Louisiana State University School of Medicine in Shreveport, and completed fellowship training in urologic oncology at Roswell Park Memorial Institute in Buffalo, New York. He holds appointments as a clinical assistant professor of urology at the University of South Florida Medical School in Tampa and has held an associate professor of urology title at the University of Florida Health Science Center in Gainesville, Florida, for many years as well. For more than 10 years he has served as a peer review editor for UROLOGY, and since its inauguration in the spring of 2014 has done so for UROLOGY PRACTICE.

He has organized volunteer rotations of several AUA urologists to help eradicate the urogenital scourge of elephantiasis in Leogane, Haiti. Since October of 2006, Dr. Dineen, fellow AUA members, and residents have performed over 1,000 hydrocele surgeries in a difficult third world environment. He continues this voluntary work three weeks each year. February of 2016 marked his 26th trip. Dr. Dineen was recognized by his University of Notre Dame physician Alumni peers with the 2014 “Dr. Tom Dooley Society” Founders Award for these humanitarian efforts. Additionally, the AUA has recognized his efforts with a Distinguished Service Award for 2016.

**Neal Dunn, MD** is a urologist, Veteran, and a successful businessman in Panama City, Florida. Dr. Dunn is running for public office for the first time, and is running for US Congress in Florida as a Republican.

Neal graduated from W & L University, then attended George Washington Medical School, and he did his residency training in Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

He was an Army surgeon for 11 years before he settled in Panama City with his wife Leah and three young sons. He founded the Panama City Urology Center, Advanced Urology Institute, and Bay Regional Cancer Center. He is Chairman of Bay Cares, a large medical charity, and Chief-of-Staff of Gulf Coast Medical Center and a director for Bay Medical Center.

He has served on the boards of the Florida Urology Society, Florida Medical Association (FMA), FMA Legislative Council, Governor’s Prostate Cancer Advisory Council, and Florida Blue.

In addition to his medical and military background, he has been very involved in business affairs in his community and state. He is the founding Chairman of Summit Bank, and served on the board of his local Chamber of Commerce as well as the Governor’s highly successful economic development organizations: Enterprise Florida and Space Florida. The Space Florida Board oversees the commercial spaceport that has taken over the management of Cape Canaveral. Space Florida is the busiest commercial spaceport in the world and averaged space launches every 18 days in 2015. It may be the only spaceport in the world that operates at a profit.

Neal and Leah have always been deeply involved in their community. He was recently named “Bay County’s Public Health Hero” and received the Junior Achievement “Hall of Fame Award,” and Leah was named “Outstanding Woman of the Year” for Bay County.
Speakers

**Jeffrey M. Frankel, MD** is a practicing urologist in Seattle, Washington. He is the current Health Policy Chair of the AACU and an AACU State Society Network Representative. He serves as a member on the AUA Public Policy Committee and serves as Chair of the Health Policy Committee of the Western Section of the AUA. He previously served as presidents of the AACU and Washington State Urology Society (WSUS), and is currently Chair of Governmental Affair for WSUS. He is Medical Director of Seattle Urology Research Center. Dr. Frankel attended the University of Washington Medical School, and completed his urology training at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

**William F. Gee, MD, FACS** is the Clinical Professor of Surgery (Urology), Voluntary Faculty, at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine and Emeritus Urologist at Commonwealth Urology, Lexington, Kentucky. He has spent much of his career training University of Kentucky PGY-4 urology residents during their six-month rotation with private practice urologists at St. Joseph Hospital. He received his medical degree from the University of Wisconsin in Madison and did his urology residency in Seattle at the University of Washington, which included a year as an NIH Senior Research Fellow. Additionally, Dr. Gee served two years on active duty as a medical officer in the United States Naval Reserve, which included service in Vietnam.

**Bradford Fitch** is President and CEO of the Congressional Management Foundation. Fitch has spent 29 years in Washington as a journalist, congressional aide, consultant, college instructor, Internet entrepreneur, and writer/researcher.

Fitch started his communications career at the age of 16 working at his local AM radio station in Upstate New York and a disc jockey and reporter. After graduate school, he worked as a television reporter in Washington, moving on to Capitol Hill for 13 years as press secretary, legislative director, and chief of staff. In 2001 he served as Deputy Director of CMF, a non-profit, non-partisan organization that advises congressional offices on how to improve operations. He left CMF in 2006 to form a new company, Knowlegis, which is now part of CQ-Roll Call, where Fitch served as a Vice President until 2010 when he returned to CMF.


**Jeffrey M. Frankel, MD** is a practicing urologist in Seattle, Washington. He is the current Health Policy Chair of the AACU and an AACU State Society Network Representative. He serves as a member on the AUA Public Policy Committee and serves as Chair of the Health Policy Committee of the Western Section of the AUA. He previously served as presidents of the AACU and Washington State Urology Society (WSUS), and is currently Chair of Governmental Affair for WSUS. He is Medical Director of Seattle Urology Research Center. Dr. Frankel attended the University of Washington Medical School, and completed his urology training at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

**William F. Gee, MD, FACS** is the Clinical Professor of Surgery (Urology), Voluntary Faculty, at the University of Kentucky College of Medicine and Emeritus Urologist at Commonwealth Urology, Lexington, Kentucky. He has spent much of his career training University of Kentucky PGY-4 urology residents during their six-month rotation with private practice urologists at St. Joseph Hospital. He received his medical degree from the University of Wisconsin in Madison and did his urology residency in Seattle at the University of Washington, which included a year as an NIH Senior Research Fellow. Additionally, Dr. Gee served two years on active duty as a medical officer in the United States Naval Reserve, which included service in Vietnam.

From 2005 to 2009 Dr. Gee was AUA treasurer and a member of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors. He has held numerous leadership positions, including president and secretary-treasurer of the American Association of Clinical Urologists, and president of both the AUA’s Southeastern Section and the Kentucky Urological Association. Dr. Gee represented the AUA as a delegate to the AMA House of Delegates prior to becoming AUA president-elect. In addition, he served as AUA representative to the “RUC” (AMA Relative Value Update Committee) for over 15 years; the RUC determines the Relative Values for the Medicare Fee Schedule. Over the years, Dr. Gee has served on numerous AUA committees, including Urology Core Curriculum, Investment, and Future of Urology Residency Training Task Force. He has also been chair of the AUA Health Policy Council and has testified before Congress on urology issues. Dr. Gee has received several AUA awards, including the AUA Distinguished Service Award and the AUA Presidential Citation. He has been a member of the AUA since 1980, and was awarded Honorary AUA Membership in 2011.
Jonathan Henderson, MD, obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree at LSU in Baton Rouge in microbiology. After receiving his MD at LSU Medical Center in Shreveport, he completed his internship and residency in Urology at LSUMC Hospital. During this time he authored a number of papers and presentations pertaining to prostate cancer—from screening to advanced disease and renal malignancies.

Dr. Henderson spent the next six years in practice in Alabama where he specialized in laparoscopy, which was in its infancy then, in 1996, as well as female pelvic dysfunction. During this time he served as a representative of Alabama to the Southeastern Section of the AUA (SESAUA). He also served as an assistant clinical professor of Urology at the University of Alabama.

In 2002 he answered a call to move back to Louisiana, joining Regional Urology, which was founded in 1998. As one of the first large groups in the country to coalesce under one roof, the opportunity was exactly what he had been endeavoring to accomplish in Alabama. Serving as the laparoscopic surgeon, he eventually became the sole provider in the group of 16 urologists for urologic oncology. Additionally, Dr. Henderson took on administrative tasks asked of him, as well as assuming Assistant Directorship of Clinical Research. In that role, he continues to author papers relevant to cutting edge urology.

He is heavily involved in LUGPA. He has served on the Health Policy Committee, and as Chair of the Communications Committee, representative to the JAC Planning Committee, and representative to UROPAC.

Dr. Henderson also serves organized urology in other roles: he is in his second term on the Board of the SESAUA; Vice Chairman of the SESAUA Health Policy Committee; SESAUA Representative to the AUA Public Policy Council; member of the SESAUA By-laws Committee; Louisiana CAC representative and delegate to the AUA National Insurance Advisory Workgroup (NIAW); President-Elect of the Louisiana Urologic Society; and Southeastern Section Representative to the AACU Board of Directors.

Dr. Henderson is certified by the American Board of Urology. He is a member of the AUA, Shreveport Medical Society, Louisiana State Medical Society, the Society of Laparoscopic Surgeons, and the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society.

Jason Jameson, MD is a Senior Associate Consultant at the Mayo Clinic in Arizona. He was involved in the development of the Men’s Health Program at Mayo Clinic and has spoken at local and national conferences and patient support groups on Men’s Health issues. He currently serves on the Board of Directors of the American Society of Men’s Health. He received a BS in biology at Nebraska Wesleyan University, his medical degree at the University of Iowa, and he completed urologic residency at the University of Utah. He was in private practice for 10 years prior to working at Mayo. He currently is the vice president of the Arizona Urological Society and serves on AUA committees at both the Western Section and National level. He has been a State Society Network Representative for the AACU since 2013 and is the urologic representative to the Arizona Medical Association, interacting regularly with Arizona State Representatives.
Robert S. Jasak, Esq. is currently the VP for Coverage and Payment Policy with Hart Health Strategies Inc. Prior to joining Hart Health Strategies Inc., Mr. Jasak served as the Deputy Director for Regulatory & Quality Affairs in the American College of Surgeons’ Division of Advocacy and Health Policy. In his position, he led ACS efforts to analyze and influence federal regulations and help shape the value-based purchasing and quality programs being incorporated in federal reimbursement formulas. For several years, he also served as the Senior Regulatory Advisor at the American Association of Orthopedic Surgeons where he worked on similar issues.

Prior to joining the ACS and AAOS, Mr. Jasak was a Director with The Advisory Board Company, a membership-based, for-profit research firm serving over 2,400 of America’s leading hospitals and health systems. He has also worked in various positions in the federal government. He served as a policy and strategy analyst in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Public Affairs, with an emphasis on Medicare payment and budget issues. He has also provided services to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Office of the General Counsel.

Mr. Jasak received his law degree from Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia, and he completed his bachelor’s degree at the University of Michigan.

Steven Kaplan, MD, FACS graduated from Mount Sinai School of Medicine in 1982 and was elected to the AOA Honor Society. Dr. Kaplan’s postgraduate training included an internship and residency in the Department of Surgery at Mount Sinai Hospital as well as a residency in urology at the Squier Urologic Clinic, Columbia University. He was an AUA Scholar between 1988–1990 that focused on identifying molecular markers and urodynamic parameters that herald bladder and prostate dysfunction.

Dr. Kaplan was the Given Foundation Professor of Urology and Administrator, as well as Vice Chairman of the Department of Urology at Columbia University from 1998–2005. And then, the E. Darracott Vaughan Jr. Professor of Urology and Chief, Institute for Bladder and Prostate Health at Weill Cornell Medical College, and Director, Iris Cantor Men’s Health Center at New York Presbyterian Hospital. He has been Fellowship Director for Female Urology and Voiding Dysfunction from 1995–2005 at Columbia, and at Weill Cornell Medical College since 2005.

Currently, he is Professor of Urology at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai and Director of Benign Urologic Diseases of the Mount Sinai Health System. He is a serial entrepreneur and a founder of Medidata Solutions Inc., a publicly held corporation and one of the premier electronic data capture companies in the world; Medivizor, Inc., a medical informatics enterprise; and, Eco – Fusion, a novel health care interface and social media platform.

Dr. Kaplan is a Diplomat of the American Board of Urology and a Fellow of the American College of Surgeons. He is a recognized authority on the study of benign diseases of the prostate, the association of metabolic factors and voiding dysfunction and female urology. He has published more than 930 articles, 170 abstracts, and has made over 340 presentations in more than 35 countries. He is the co-author of five books and is on the Editorial Board of Urology, Journal of Urology, and Urology Times.

Dr. Kaplan has been a member of more than 30 professional organizations, been awarded five NIH grants and has received over 13 million dollars in research funding. He was awarded the John K. Lattimer Award for Lifetime Achievement in Urology by the National Kidney Foundation. Most recently, he chaired the NIDDK Prostate Strategic Planning Committee and currently Chairs the AUA Research Advocacy Committee.
Speakers

Deepak A. Kapoor, MD, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Integrated Medical Professionals (IMP) headquartered in Melville, New York, is one of the youngest physicians to have been certified by the American Board of Urology and comes to IMP with over 20 years of clinical and business expertise. His medical background is diverse with both laboratory and clinical experience, both in the academic and private sectors. Dr. Kapoor’s expertise includes basic science research in molecular biology as well as extensive experience in oncologic and reconstructive surgery.

Under his leadership, Dr. Kapoor’s organization, Integrated Medical Professionals (IMP) has become the largest comprehensive urology group practice in the United States, and is regarded as a national leader in the areas of quality management, utilization review, compliance and the development of coordinated clinical pathways.

In addition to his duties with IMP, Dr. Kapoor is Clinical Associate Professor of Urology at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, Chairman of Health Policy and Past President of LUGPA (a trade organization representing nearly 25% of all practicing urologists in the United States), is Chairman of SCRUBS RRG (the only national urology specific medical malpractice carrier), has served on the Board of Directors of UROPAC (the national political action committee representing the interests of the specialty of urology), founder of the New York Urology Trade Association (representing the business interests of urology group practices in the state of New York), past Chairman of Access to Integrated Cancer Care (an informal advocacy group representing the rights of patients to access integrated services of the highest quality), is a member of the Board of Directors of Allied Urological Services, (the largest lithotripsy partnership in the United States, where he also functions as Chairman of the Finance Committee), and is Founder and Past-President of the Integrated Medical Foundation. Dr. Kapoor is a Fellow of the American College of Physician Executives.

Dr. Kapoor has published and lectured extensively on both clinical and business medical issues, and serves on a number of medical advisory boards, including the New York State Governor’s Prostate Cancer Advisory Panel. He is the 2014 recipient of the Russell W. Lavengood Distinguished Service Award from the New York Section of the American Urological Association as well as the 2011 Ambrose-Reed Socioeconomic Essay Award from the American Urological Association. Dr. Kapoor continues to enjoy an active clinical practice along with his administrative duties.

Jake Krilovich is the Government Relations Manager for ZERO – The End of Prostate Cancer. He oversees all State and Federal government relations related to prostate cancer, including the protection and growth of federal research funding at the Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP). In addition, Jake works with other interest groups on various access to care issues that impact patients such as Medicare reimbursement and the United States Preventative Services Task Force (USPSTF) ruling on prostate cancer screening. Prior to working at ZERO, Jake has experience on Capitol Hill and in the Massachusetts State Legislature. He graduated from the University of Massachusetts – Amherst with a degree in political science.

Brandon Leonard, MA serves as the Director of Strategic Initiatives for the Men’s Health Network. Brandon’s work focuses on outreach to colleges, employers, churches, and community-based organizations to improve health education for men, boys, and their families. Prior to joining MHN’s Washington, D.C. office, Brandon worked with MHN on a variety of volunteer projects and was an International Programs Officer with the Foundation for Sustainable Development, an international organization supporting the work of grassroots efforts to improve health, education, and human rights in Latin America, India and East Africa.

A 2004 Virginia Governor’s Fellow, Brandon served as a Policy and Planning Specialist in Virginia’s Office of Community Integration for People with Disabilities. Brandon received his MA in international development studies from the George Washington University in 2008, and his BA in foreign affairs and Spanish from the University of Virginia in 2004.
Speakers

**Sandy Marks, MBA** currently serves as the Assistant Director of Federal Affairs for the American Medical Association (AMA), a position she has held since 1997. Prior to her current position, Sandy served as both the Director of Physician Payment Systems and as a Senior Health Policy Analyst for the AMA. Before coming to the AMA, Sandy was the Assistant Director of the Center for Health Services and Policy Research at Northwestern University. Sandy received a Bachelor’s degree in urban studies and geography from Northwestern University, and a Master of Business Administration in health care administration from Northwestern’s Kellogg School of Management.

**Len Marquez** is the director of government relations at the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC). There, Mr. Marquez serves as the primary contact for congressional staff and legislators and is the lead association advocate on such issues as Graduate Medical Education (GME), Medicare payments, and the physician workforce. Prior to joining the AAMC in 2009, Mr. Marquez gained more than 15 years of experience in government relations at the Cleveland Clinic and The MetroHealth System in Cleveland, Ohio, and in the office of U.S. Senator Mike DeWine (R-Ohio) in Washington, D.C. Mr. Marquez holds a BA in communications from Xavier University, and an MA in journalism and public affairs from American University. Len resides in Potomac Falls, Virginia, with his wife, Jennifer, and their three daughters.

**Patrick H. McKenna, MD** is the Mark and Karen Koulogeorge Family Chair in Urology, Professor and Chief Division of Pediatric Urology in the Department of Urology at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health. Dr. McKenna received his medical degree from George Washington University, and completed his residency at Naval Medical Center in Portsmouth, Virginia, and fellowship at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, Canada. Dr. McKenna is a Specialty Diplomat of the American Board of Urology. He serves as State Society Network Chair for the AACU, and is the Immediate Past President of North Central Section of the AUA. He is a past president of the Society of University Urologists and the Chair of the SUU Health Policy Committee. He serves on the Science and Quality Committee and Judicial and Ethics Committee of the AUA, and is the former Chair of the Judicial and Ethics Committee. He is the Past-Chair of the American Academy of Pediatrics Section on Urology and serves as the Chair of the AAP Health Policy Committee.
Frank G. Opelka, MD, FACS is the Vice Chancellor for Clinical Affairs and Professor of Surgery at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans. At LSU, he actively teaches in the four health sciences schools, developing programs for innovation and delivery system redesign. He also works at the LSU seven hospital system to support efforts for the development of a safety net ACO to address various challenges, such as the dual eligibles. He also represents the American College of Surgeons, Washington, D.C. Office in the Division of Health Policy and Advocacy. Dr. Opelka founded and serves as the chair of the Surgical Quality Alliance, with over 20 surgical organizations sitting in the alliance. He serves as one of the original members of the National Priorities Partnership in the National Quality Forum, a member of the NQF’s Consensus Standards Advisory Committee, and has served as a chair of an NQF steering committee. Dr. Opelka continues to serve on the Quality Alliance Steering Committee, the AQA, and the AMA’s Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement. He has served on several advisory committees to several health plans, including United Health Group, Blue Cross Blue Shield of America, and Humana. Dr. Opelka has developed and assisted the American Board of Medical Specialties in their clinical registry efforts for the Maintenance of Certification Part IV. Prior to serving in the quality arena, Dr. Opelka worked closely with CMS in the Ambulatory APG relative values,AMA’s Relative Value Updates Committee, Practice Expense Committee, and an advisory to the CPT Editorial Committee. Dr. Opelka served 12 years on active duty in the U.S. Army where he did his residency in General Surgery at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center and Eisenhower Army Medical Center. His colorectal surgery fellowship was at the Ochsner Clinic New Orleans where he served for 12 years as faculty and attending surgeon. His career then included time at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in Boston before returning to New Orleans just in time for Hurricane Katrina. Dr. Opelka is a board certified colon and rectal surgery. He is a fellow of the American College of Surgeons and the American Society of Colon and Rectal Surgeons.

David F. Penson, MD, MPH, is the Paul V. Hamilton, MD and Virginia E. Howd Chair in Urologic Oncology and Professor of Urologic Surgery and Medicine at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. Dr. Penson is the Director of the Center for Surgical Quality and Outcomes Research in the Vanderbilt Institute for Medicine and Public Health and a professor of urological surgery at Vanderbilt University Medical Center. He received his undergraduate degree from the University of Pennsylvania and his medical degree from Boston University School of Medicine. He served as a resident in surgery and urology at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). Upon completing his chief residency in urology, Dr. Penson was simultaneously awarded an American Foundation for Urologic Disease (now Urology Care Foundation) Health Policy Research Scholarship and Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Fellowship. As a fellow, he studied clinical epidemiology and health services research at Yale University, obtaining a Master of Public Health. Upon completion of his fellowship, Dr. Penson joined the faculty of the University of Washington School of Medicine and was appointed affiliate investigator at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center. He was awarded a VA Career Development Award in 2001 and soon after obtained R-01 grant funding from the National Cancer Institute to study quality of life in prostate cancer survivors.

He joined the faculty of the Keck School of Medicine at the University of Southern California in January 2004 and served the University as an Associate Professor of Urology and Preventive Medicine. Dr. Penson’s research and clinical efforts were recognized by the AUA, which awarded him the prestigious 2006 Gold Cytoscope, given annually to the urologist who has contributed the most to the specialty in the first 10 years after completing his/her residency. Dr. Penson is currently the Chair of the AUA’s Public Policy Council. He was previously the Chair of the Quality Improvement and Patient Safety Committee and was instrumental in the development of the AUA and American Medical Association Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement for prostate cancer performance measures, which were included in the 2007 and 2008 Medicare Physician Quality Reporting Initiative, now the Physician Reporting System (PQRS). Additionally, he was named the AUA’s first Gallagher Health Policy Scholar in 2007.
Speakers

**Eugene Y. Rhee, MD, MBA** is the Chief of Urologic Surgery at Kaiser Permanente, San Diego, California, and the 2013-2014 AUA Gallagher Health Policy Scholar. He is the Past President of The California Urological Association, and a Past President of The San Diego Urologic Society. He serves as the Section Editor for Health Policy for *Urology Practice*, the AUA Health Policy Committee as the Western Section Representative, the AUA Legislative Affairs Committee, the AUA Electronic Health Records Committee, and is Co-Chair of the AUA Telemedicine Work Group exploring the role of telemedicine in urologic care. He serves on the Board of Directors of the AACU. Dr. Rhee is an inventor, creating a surgical device and procedure to treat male incontinence and is considered an international expert in the field of incontinence, urologic reconstruction, and minimally invasive techniques for BPH. He has helped introduce the Shared Medical Appointment (SMA) in urology as a significant clinical practice tool. Dr. Rhee earned his medical degree from Emory University School of Medicine in Atlanta, Georgia, and completed his residency at the Kaiser Permanente Foundation Hospitals in Los Angeles, California. He received both his Bachelor of Science in biology and his Bachelor of Arts in political science from Emory University. He received his MBA from The Anderson School of Management at UCLA in 2008, and is a graduate of the 2010-2011 AUA Leadership Class.

**Phil Roe, MD** represents the First Congressional District of Tennessee. A resident of Johnson City serving his fourth term in Congress, Dr. Roe has a strong work ethic and is committed to working on behalf of the First District, Tennessee and our nation.

A native of Tennessee, Dr. Roe was born on July 21, 1945 in Clarksville. He earned a degree in Biology with a minor in Chemistry from Austin Peay State University in 1967 and went on and to earn his Medical Degree from the University of Tennessee in 1970. Upon graduation, he served two years in the United States Army Medical Corps.

Congressman Roe serves on the House Education and Workforce Committee, where he chairs the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor and Pensions. He also serves on the House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs, where he sits on the Oversight and Investigations and Health Subcommittees.

As a physician, Congressman Roe has become an active player in the effort to reform our nation’s health care system. He is the co-chair of the House GOP Doctors Caucus and a member of the Health Caucus.

Prior to serving in Congress, Dr. Roe served as the Mayor of Johnson City from 2007 to 2009 and Vice Mayor from 2003 to 2007. He ran a successful medical practice in Johnson City for 31 years, delivering close to 5,000 babies. Phil and his late wife Pam have three children: David C. Roe, John Roe, and Whitney Larkin. They have two grandchildren.
Speakers

**Paul Rockey, MD, MPH** is a Scholar in Residence at the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). Prior to joining the ACGME in 2012, he directed the Division of Graduate Medical Education (GME) at the American Medical Association (AMA) where he provided national leadership in GME and medical workforce issues for nearly a decade.

After earning a medical degree from the University of Chicago and interning at Harborview Medical Center in Seattle, Dr. Rockey was a solo physician at Rocky Boy Indian Reservation in Montana from 1971 to 1973. After completing his internal medicine training and earning a Masters of Public Health, he was founding director of the primary care internal medicine residency program; associate professor of medicine and health services; and assistant dean, all at the University of Washington in Seattle. In 1988, he became vice president for medical affairs at St. Vincent Hospital in Worcester, Massachusetts, and associate professor and associate dean of the University of Massachusetts Medical School. In 1991, Dr. Rockey joined Southern Illinois University (SIU) School of Medicine to serve for 12 years as professor of medicine and medical humanities, and associate dean for clinical affairs, including responsibility for all GME programs. He is a professor emeritus at SIU and a volunteer faculty physician at Community Health (the largest free clinic in Chicago), where he continues to mentor residents. He was recently appointed Chair of the Illinois State Medical Society’s Council on Education and Health Workforce. Dr. Rockey served as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army National Guard until he retired in 2001 with 25 years of service. Dr. Rockey’s hobbies include golfing, biking, ice skating, and spending time with his three children and six grandchildren.

**Stuart Rothenberg** has embodied the rare ability to report on all the political happenings in the nation with unbiased clarity and non-partisan precision for years. The publication he founded, the *Rothenberg & Gonzales Political Report*, provides honest, nonpartisan reporting and clear-eyed analysis of American elections and their potential ramifications, looking at U.S. House, Senate, and gubernatorial campaigns, presidential politics, and political developments. Exclusively represented by Leading Authorities speakers bureau, Mr. Rothenberg is one of the nation’s most popular political analysts and handicappers, and he captivates audiences with insightful, often humorous discussions about election results, the issues facing decision makers on Capitol Hill, and the nature of politics itself. His lectures are as up-to-date as today’s newspaper, and he presents his insider views on hotly debated issues and how the future of politics is being shaped by our nation’s current newsmakers.

In addition to commentary that has been featured in newspapers throughout the country, Mr. Rothenberg also writes a column in *Capitol Hill’s Roll Call* twice a week, and his op-eds have appeared in the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, and other newspapers. A frequent soundbite, his political expertise has made him a frequent guest on the network television news circuit, where he has appeared on *Meet the Press*, *TODAY*, *This Week*, *Face the Nation*, *Nightline*, and *The McLaughlin Group*. In 2008 and 2010, he was a regular contributor during the election cycles to PBS *NewsHour*, and in 2006, he served as a political analyst for CBS News. Before that, he served as a CNN political analyst for more than 10 years, which included extensive on-air election night analysis. He has also served as a political analyst for the Voice of America.

Mr. Rothenberg holds a BA from Colby College in Waterville, Maine, and a PhD from the University of Connecticut. He has taught political science at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, and at Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. Mr. Rothenberg has been speaking to corporate and association audiences around the country for more than a decade, and helping people identify and better understand political trends.
Aaron Spitz, MD earned his medical degree from Cornell Medical College, and he completed his urology residency at the University of Southern California. He then obtained fellowship training in infertility at the Baylor College of Medicine. Dr. Spitz has expertise in the treatment of male infertility and sexual dysfunction, and is actively engaged in clinical trials and research in the area of andrology, male sexual dysfunction and male infertility.

Dr. Aaron Spitz is an assistant clinical professor in the University of California Irvine, Department of Urology, specializing in male reproductive medicine and surgery. Further, Dr. Spitz currently directs the Center for Male Reproductive Medicine and Surgery at Orange County Urology in Laguna Hills and Mission Viejo, California. He also serves as the Medical Director for Fertility Center of California, a comprehensive andrology testing facility and sperm bank.

Dr Spitz served on the Board of Directors as Vice President of Finance for the Pacific Coast Reproductive Society for the past three years. He is the President of the California Urological Association. He is the Orange County District representative to the Western Section of the AUA. He is the lead delegate to the American Medical Association House of Delegates representing the AUA. He sits on the Public Policy Council of the AUA. In addition, Dr. Spitz has served as faculty for the AUA's national microsurgical course.

Dr. Spitz has been awarded several prestigious honors including Alpha Omega Alpha at the University of Southern California. He has authored book chapters and articles in peer reviewed publications on the topic of male infertility. He is a member of the AUA, AMA, SSMR, SMRU, ASRM and PCRS. He also serves as a reviewer for the Journal of Endourology, and the Journal of Andrology.

Arthur E. Tarantino, MD, is a private practice urologist in Hartford, Connecticut. Dr. Tarantino received his undergraduate degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and his master’s and medical degrees from the Georgetown University School of Medicine. He completed his general surgery residency at the University of Rochester, and his urology residency at the Lahey Clinic in Burlington, Massachusetts. Dr. Tarantino is a past president of the AACU. He serves as treasurer for the New England Section of the AUA, and president of the Connecticut State Urology Society. He is also the chairman of UROPAC.
Speakers

**Professor Jonathan Turley** is a nationally recognized legal scholar who has written extensively in areas ranging from constitutional law to legal theory to tort law. He has written dozens academic articles appearing in a variety of leading law journals at Cornell, Duke, Georgetown, Harvard, Northwestern, University of Chicago, and other schools. He has taught medical malpractice and torts for over 30 years.

After a stint at Tulane Law School, Professor Turley joined the George Washington faculty in 1990 and, in 1998, was given the prestigious Shapiro Chair for Public Interest Law, the youngest chaired professor in the school’s history. In addition to his extensive publications, Professor Turley has served as counsel in some of the most notable cases in the last two decades and remains one of the few attorneys to successfully challenge both a federal and a state law — leading to the laws being struck down.

In 2010, Professor Turley represented Judge G. Thomas Porteous in his impeachment trial on the Senate floor — only the 14th time such trial in history. He has previously represented members of Congress and is currently the lead counsel representing the entire House of Representatives in the challenge to President Obama’s actions under the Affordable Care Act. Other cases include his representation of the Area 51 workers at a secret air base in Nevada; the nuclear couriers at Oak Ridge, Tennessee; the Rocky Flats grand jury in Colorado; Dr. Eric Foretich, the husband in the famous Elizabeth Morgan custody controversy; pilots over the age of 60 contesting age discrimination; and four former U.S. Attorneys General during the Clinton impeachment. Professor Turley has also served as counsel in a variety of national security cases, including some of the highest profile terrorism and espionage cases of the last two decades. He also serves as lead counsel representing the Brown family from the TLC “Sister Wives,” a case that recently led to the striking down of the Utah polygamy law.

Professor Turley is a frequent witness before the House and Senate. Professor Turley is also a nationally recognized legal commentator. Professor Turley was ranked as 38th in the top 100 most cited “public intellectuals” in the recent study by Judge Richard Posner. Turley was also found to be the second most cited law professor in the country. He has been repeatedly ranked in the nation’s top 500 lawyers in annual surveys — one of only a handful of academics. In prior years, he was ranked as one of the nation’s top ten lawyers in military law cases as well as other global rankings of top lawyers.

Professor Turley’s articles appear regularly in national publications in the *New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *USA Today*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, and other papers. He is an award-winning columnist for *USA Today* and has served as the Legal Analyst for NBC News and CBS News. He has been a repeated guest on Sunday talk shows with over two-dozen appearances on *Meet the Press*, *ABC This Week*, *Face the Nation*, and *Fox Sunday*. His award-winning blog was inducted into the ABA Journal’s Hall of Fame and is ranked among the top legal blogs in the world.

Professor Turley received his BA at the University of Chicago, and his JD at Northwestern. In 2008, he was given an honorary Doctorate of Law from John Marshall Law School for his contributions to civil liberties and the public interest.

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**James C. Ulchaker, MD, FACS** graduated from Baldwin Wallace College and Case Western University School of Medicine, and completed his residency at the Cleveland Clinic Foundation. He has subsequently been on the Cleveland Clinic’s staff in the section of Urologic Oncology/Prostate Center for more than 15 years. Additionally, Dr. Ulchaker has been active in organized urology. He currently serves as Chair of the American Urological Association (AUA) Legislative Affairs Committee and is on the AUA Public Policy Council. He has served as President of the Cleveland Urological Society and the Ohio Urological Society, Vice Chair of UROPAC, as well as Chair of the AUA’s Young Urologists Committee.
February 28, 2016

Dear Colleague:

Thank you for your generous support of UROPAC in 2015. Because of your contributions, UROPAC can continue to fight exclusively for urologists and our patients by working to elect members of Congress who have a proven record of support for the urologic community, and are willing to fight for the profession.

UROPAC is sponsored by the American Association of Clinical Urologists. The PAC is your voice in the political process, and the only PAC that specifically works to elect pro-urology candidates to the U.S. House and Senate. We represent all of the urologists in the U.S., from the small, independent clinician to large group practices, and those practicing in hospitals and academic centers.

With the ever-increasing presence of government in the practice of medicine, it is critical that urology maintain a positive, focused voice on Capitol Hill through UROPAC. Supporting UROPAC is an essential part of our individual responsibility to support our profession and our patients.

On behalf of all of urology, THANK YOU for your continued support!

For more information about UROPAC activities, visit www.UROPAC.org.

Arthur Tarantino, MD
UROPAC Chair

Contributions to UROPAC cannot be deducted as a charitable contribution for federal tax purposes. UROPAC is a bipartisan political action committee ("PAC") of the American Association of Clinical Urologists. Contributions are voluntary and you have a right to refuse to contribute without reprisal. PAC funds will be used in connection with federal elections and are subject to the prohibitions and limitations of the Federal election Campaign Act. UROPAC uses contributions from individual members to help elect candidates to federal office that are supportive of UROPAC's legislative agenda. Federal law requires UROPAC to use its best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation and the name of employer of individuals whose contributions exceed $200 per calendar year.
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GRADUATE MEDICAL EDUCATION (GME)
Join as a Cosponsor of Legislation to Increase Federally Funded Residency Slots

REQUEST
Urologists urge Congress to acknowledge the importance of specialty medicine and address urological workforce shortages that jeopardize patient access to care. We urge representatives and senators to support and cosponsor bills aimed at this problem. In the House, we seek support for H.R. 2124, entitled the “Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act,” introduced by Representatives Joseph Crowley (D-NY) and Charles Boustany, Jr., MD (R-LA), and S. 1148, likewise entitled, the “Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act,” introduced by Senators Bill Nelson (D-FL), Charles Schumer (D-NY) and Harry Reid (D-NV).

BACKGROUND
The “Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act” will provide much-needed improvements to the nation’s graduate medical education (GME) system. In particular, the “Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act,” H.R. 2124/S. 1148, helps preserve access to specialty care by: increasing the number of GME residency slots by 15,000 over the next five years; directing half of the newly available positions to training in shortage specialties such as urology; specifying priorities for distributing the new slots (e.g., states with new medical schools); and studying the needs of the U.S. healthcare system to allocate residencies accordingly.

RATIONALE
The United States will face an overall shortage of more than 130,000 physicians by 2025 and one-half of this shortage will come from specialty physicians such as urologists. Urology has seen a greater than 10 percent decline in the number of urologists per capita over the past 20 years. In 2009, there were only 3.18 urologists per 100,000 population, which marked a 30-year low in the labor force for our field. The average age of a urologist is 52.5 years, with more than 44 percent of urologists age 55 or older, making our specialty the second oldest only to thoracic surgery. In addition, training for urologists following graduation from medical school is a minimum of 5 years and frequently longer.

The Health Resources and Services Administration Bureau of Health Professions, in its 2008 report, projected a need for 16,000 urologists by 2020. This is congruent with other independent projections that show that by 2030 urology will face a 32 percent deficiency in the number of providers necessary to adequately care for a projected population of 364 million U.S. citizens. A recent American Urological Association (AUA) Workforce and Compensation Survey indicated that up to 20 percent of currently practicing urologists plan to retire in the next five to ten years. We need to take steps now to ensure a fully trained specialty physician workforce for the future.

CONTACTS
To join as a cosponsor of the “Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act,” please contact in the House, Nicole Cohen (Rep. Crowley) at 5-3965 or nicole.cohen@mail.house.gov; and in the Senate, Corey Malmgren (Sen. Nelson) at 4-5274 or corey_malmgren@billnelson.senate.gov.
Urologists urge Congress to require that the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) have greater accountability and transparency. We urge lawmakers to cosponsor H.R. 1151, the “USPSTF Transparency and Accountability Act of 2015,” introduced by Representatives Marsha Blackburn (R-TN) and Bobby Rush (D-IL).

BACKGROUND
The “USPSTF Transparency and Accountability Act” includes critical reforms that would require the USPSTF to:
1. publish research plans to guide its systematic review of evidence and new science relating to the effectiveness of preventive services;
2. make available reports on such evidence and recommendations for public comment;
3. codify the grading system so it cannot be changed without appropriate review; and
4. establish a stakeholders board to advise it on developing, updating, publishing and disseminating evidence-based recommendations. In addition, the bill would ensure that Medicare or other payors cannot deny payment for a preventive service solely based on the task force grade.

RATIONALE
Currently, the USPSTF has little accountability. The task force members are appointed by an unelected official, and they do not meet with relevant stakeholders during their review process nor do medical specialists serve on the task force. Although recommendations are intended for a primary care audience, they impact patient access to appropriate specialty care.

Urology is specifically concerned about its 2012 recommendation against prostate-specific antigen (PSA) based screening for prostate cancer for all men, regardless of risk. This is particularly true in light of recent studies which indicate that the positive trends we had been seeing in the early diagnosis and treatment of prostate have been negatively impacted since the release of the 2012 recommendations. In recent years, the USPSTF has issued multiple other controversial ratings on a variety of health care services, including routine breast cancer screening, vision services for children and seniors, and dementia screening in older Americans.

Moreover, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) notified the public last fall that it is considering adopting a new quality measure entitled, “Non-recommended PSA-Based Screening,” that would penalize physicians for ordering PSA tests for their patients subject to a limited number of exclusions. The CMS contractor that developed this proposed quality measure cited the controversial 2012 USPSTF prostate screening guidelines – guidelines not developed by experts in the field of prostate cancer – as the rationale behind the proposal. In addition, the USPSTF is expected to release updated recommendations on prostate cancer screening next year.

In 2013, the American Urological Association (AUA) released a clinical practice Guideline on the Early Detection of Prostate Cancer developed using evidence from a systematic literature review. This guideline supports the use of the PSA test in a more-targeted manner, whereas the USPSTF recommendation does not encourage its use in men of any age. We support a man’s right to be tested for prostate cancer – and to have his insurance pay for it, if medically necessary – if, in fact, he decides to do so following a detailed conversation with his physician about the benefits and harms of screening.

CONTACTS
To cosponsor the “USPSTF Transparency and Accountability Act of 2015,” please contact Kristi Thompson (Rep. Blackburn) at 5-2811 or kristi.thompson@mail.house.gov or Yardly Pollas (Rep. Rush) at 5-4372 or yardly.pollas@mail.house.gov.
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*As of 2/16/2016.