STATE MEDICAL ASSOCIATIONS AND NATIONAL MEDICAL SPECIALTY SOCIETIES

April 15, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

RE: Support for Richard Pan, M.D., for Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Administrator

Dear President Biden,

The undersigned State Medical Associations and National Specialty Societies are writing to offer our strong support for physician and State Senator Richard Pan’s candidacy for the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Administrator position. As a practicing pediatrician and current state Senator in the California Legislature, Dr. Pan is a highly respected national health care leader who has championed public health and worked to improve health care disparities his entire career. Dr. Pan’s accomplishments and experience with the programs under HRSA make him uniquely qualified to lead the agency. Moreover, he would be a great asset to the Biden-Harris Administration’s initiatives to ensure that all Americans, particularly those in underserved communities of color, have access to the COVID-19 vaccine.

As a physician, Dr. Pan cares for Medicaid and uninsured families and continues to practice at a community clinic while serving in California’s full-time state Legislature. As an educator and researcher, he has focused his efforts on addressing health care disparities and social determinants of health, including the creation of a medical training program that requires physicians and other health professionals to partner with communities to address health care disparities. He has also promoted health care workforce diversity to serve traditionally underserved communities.

As a state Senator, Dr. Pan authored the nation’s first law to eliminate non-medical exemptions for childhood vaccines required for school. He wrote the legislation to expand Affordable Care Act coverage in California and he chaired the California Legislature’s Committee on Health and the Budget Committee on Health and Human Services, which oversees an annual budget of over $150 billion serving over 13 million people in both urban and rural areas of California.

Throughout his career, Dr. Pan has implemented programs that have a direct impact on improving underserved patients’ access to quality care. His experience in addressing maternal and child health, vaccines, health care disparities, health care coverage systems, and workforce issues will be invaluable to the Biden-Harris Administration and our nation’s patients.
We urge you to appoint Dr. Richard Pan to be the Administrator of HRSA.

Sincerely,

American Academy of Family Physicians
American Academy of Pediatrics
American Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
American College of Emergency Physicians
American College of Physicians
American Association of Neurological Surgeons
American Osteopathic Association
American Society of Anesthesiologists
American Society for Gastrointestinal Endoscopy
California Association of Neurological Surgeons
Congress of Neurological Surgeons
AANS/CNS Section on Pediatric Neurological Surgery
Osteopathic Physicians & Surgeons of California

Alaska State Medical Association
Arizona Medical Association
California Medical Association
Colorado Medical Society
Florida Medical Association
Idaho Medical Association
Illinois State Medical Society
Maryland State Medical Society
Massachusetts Medical Society
Medical Society of New Jersey
Medical Society State of New York
Medical Society of Virginia
Michigan State Medical Society
Minnesota Medical Association
Mississippi State Medical Association
Nevada State Medical Association
New Hampshire Medical Society
New Mexico Medical Society
North Carolina Medical Society
Ohio State Medical Association
Oregon Medical Association
Pennsylvania Medical Society
Rhode Island Medical Society
Texas Medical Association
Vermont Medical Society
Washington State Medical Association
Wyoming State Medical Society
Cc: Xavier Becerra, Secretary HHS
    Catherine M. Russell, Director, OPP, White House
    Hee Jung Linda Shim, Director, Priority Placement, OPP, White House