



July 27, 2012

The Honorable John Barrow
2202 Rayburn HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn
217 Cannon HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Barrow and Blackburn:

The Prevent Cancer Foundation applauds your leadership in introducing HR 5998, the USPSTF Transparency and Accountability Act. The Foundation supports the Act's bipartisan effort to bring transparency to the task force and its processes.

The Prevent Cancer Foundation has been concerned in recent years over the USPSTF's processes and resulting recommendations in cancer screening. Both in action (breast, prostate, skin) and inaction (spiral CT screening in lung cancer) their processes have led to restricted access to critical cancer screenings and ultimately undermine access, education and prevention. We applaud HR 5998 and many of its provisions including:

- Requiring members to disclose potential conflicts of interest
- Changing the composition of the USPSTF review committees to include practicing primary and specialty care providers and patients and appropriate expertise
- A published draft research plan to guide the systematic evidence review process
- Review of findings and research by federal agencies and departments
- The opportunity for the public to comment on draft recommendations

The Prevent Cancer Foundation is grateful for your leadership in this area, and we look forward to working with you and within the health advocacy community to build support for this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carolyn Aldige".

Carolyn Aldige
President and Founder