

July 22, 2008

Reference No.: SASC08060

Senator Richard T. Moore
Chairman, Senate Health Care Financing Committee
State House
Room 111
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Letter of Support for H. 4574 Vital Legislation for the Bleeding Disorders Community in Massachusetts

Dear Chairman Moore:

On behalf of the Plasma Protein Therapeutics Association (PPTA), I am writing to ask for your continued support on H. 4574. Specifically, we respectfully request that you recommit the bill to the Health Care Financing Committee. This bill would allow for the revival of the Massachusetts Hemophilia Advisory Committee currently codified at Chapter 11, Sections 6, 6A, and 6B of the Massachusetts General Laws. H. 4574 would also modify the Advisory Committee structure so as to better address the needs of the bleeding disorders population in Massachusetts.

PPTA is the standard setting and global advocacy organization that represents plasma collection centers and manufacturers of plasma-derived and recombinant analog therapies for individuals with bleeding disorders, alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency and primary immune deficiencies. PPTA works in partnership with the consumer community to help ensure access to these life-saving therapies.

H. 4574, which would reconstitute the Hemophilia Advisory Committee represents a proactive step in ensuring that people with bleeding disorders receive the care they need in Massachusetts. The specific concerns of this relatively small population are often overlooked in the context of changes to the broader health care system. The Hemophilia Advisory Committee would allow the various stakeholders in the bleeding disorders community to have a forum in which to voice their concerns to Massachusetts decision makers. There have been major advances in treatments for bleeding disorders over the past three decades. In order to help ensure further advancement, it is essential that the affected populations are able to have a voice in decisions that may impact the health care they receive. In short, we believe that the Hemophilia Advisory Committee is an important aspect of ensuring that patients with bleeding disorders in Massachusetts receive the highest quality of care possible. We appreciate your continued efforts on this legislation.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me. I can be reached at 202-789-3100 or by email at rfaden@pptaglobal.org.

Sincerely,



Ryan M. Faden, JD, MPH
Assistant Director, State Affairs

CC: Glenn Mones, Vice President, Public Policy
The National Hemophilia Association

Kevin Sorge, Executive Director
New England Hemophilia Association