

Board of Directors

Chairman
Christopher L. Drake, PhD
Henry Ford Hospital

Vice Chairman
Charles A. Czeisler, PhD, MD
Harvard Medical School

Secretary
Joseph Ojile, MD
Clayton Sleep Institute

Treasurer
Daniel B. Brown, JD
The Health Law Partners, LLC

Immediate Past Chairman
Russell Rosenberg, PhD
Atlanta School of Sleep Medicine

Richard K. Bogan, MD
SleepMed Inc.

David G. Davila, MD
Baptist Health Medical Center

Helene A. Emsellem, MD
The Center for Sleep &
Wake Disorders

Benjamin Gerson, MD
University Services

Lauren Hale, PhD
Stony Brook School of Medicine

Max Hirshkowitz, PhD
Baylor College of Medicine

Jerrold A. Kram, MD
California Center for
Sleep Disorders

Meir H. Kryger, MD
Yale Pulmonary & Critical
Care Medicine

John Lopus
LiFT HSI

Matthew S. Mellott
Medbridge Healthcare LLC

Frankie Roman, MD, JD
Center for Sleep Disorders

Stephen H. Sheldon, DO
Northwestern University

Lisa Shives, MD
The Linden Center for Sleep
and Weight Management

Amy R. Wolfson, PhD
College of the Holy Cross

Chief Executive Officer
David M. Cloud

October 3, 2013

The Honorable Mark Warner
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Warner;

I urge you to vote no for Senate Bill 1537. This Bill sets a dangerous precedent in which decisions of the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration's Medical Review Board are re-prosecuted for political purposes.

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration has a difficult task in keeping our roads safe. It must decide which medical conditions are compatible with safe truck operations. The Medical Review Board's judgment in these matters is critical to an effective transportation safety program. Screening and managing important medical conditions, like obstructive sleep disorder, improves truckers' health.

This medical question has been thoroughly studied and transparently debated. FMCSA began studying this question in 2004. On two occasions the Medical Review Board has considered the question of truckers and sleep disordered breathing (obstructive sleep apnea) and on both occasions that body has made recommendations to screen high risk truckers for obstructive sleep apnea. It has included several rounds of commissioned research and public hearings.

While not everyone likes the outcome, all sides have been heard. This Bill sets a bad precedent for politicizing medical decisions and will further delay implementation of a needed health care screening. It neither advances public safety nor improves the health of the trucker. I urge you to reject S. 1537.

Regards,



David M. Cloud
CEO