



December 17, 2020

Dear Biden-Harris Transition Team:

I write this letter to recommend the Hon. Patrick J. Kennedy for the position of Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy. Mr. Kennedy has a reputation that precedes him and qualifications that make him the ideal leader to shepherd long-needed reforms in drug addiction prevention and treatment in the U.S.

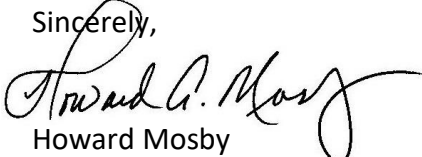
Mr. Kennedy has maintained an extensive, bipartisan record in supporting and championing mental health and addiction services. During his eight-term tenure in the U.S. House, he successfully fought for treatment parity and worked with both Democratic and Republican leaders to successfully pass the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act, which he sponsored. In my time in the Georgia House of Representatives and as an executive at a large safety net hospital over the past two decades, I recognized and acted on the principle that the only way Americans can move forward is together, a virtue Mr. Kennedy has shown throughout his career that matches the mission of the ONDCP.

Mr. Kennedy's work has continued since leaving Congress, earning him a reputation as a convener in the mental health and addiction community. He has continued championing equity and parity in mental health and addiction, including as a co-founder of the Kennedy-Satcher Center for Mental Health Equity. He also joined with social and criminal justice reformer Van Jones and former speaker Newt Gingrich to launch Advocates for Opioid Recovery with the goal of breaking down barriers to evidence-based treatment of opioid use disorder. In private life, Mr. Kennedy founded The Kennedy Forum and co-founded One Mind, organizations committed to uniting advocates, researchers, business leaders and government agencies in support of mental health and addiction equity.

Mr. Kennedy's relationships across the public and private sector and his passion for the cause have catalyzed national conversations around health equity and generated momentum for necessary reforms to aid underserved communities across the U.S. His service to the public is unmatched, and his commitment to collaboration and equity are unparalleled in the area of mental health and addiction services.

Again, I strongly recommend the appointment of Patrick Kennedy as the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

Sincerely,


Howard Mosby
Board Member & Treasurer