July 18, 2018

Honorable Lamar Alexander, Chairman  Honorable Dianne Feinstein, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development  Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
Senate Committee on Appropriations  Senate Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate  United States Senate
SD-142 Dirksen Senate Office Building  SD-142 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510  Washington, DC 20510

Honorable Mike Simpson, Chairman  Honorable Marcy Kaptur, Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development  Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
House Committee on Appropriations  House Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives  United States House of Representatives
2362-B Rayburn House Office Building  2362-B Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515  Washington, DC 20515

RE: $20 million inclusion for NNSA’s medical isotope program securing domestic production of Mo-99

Dear Chairmen Alexander and Simpson and Ranking Member Feinstein and Kaptur:

We write in support of a provision in both the House of Representatives and Senate Fiscal Year 2019 Energy and Water Appropriations bills that would provide $20 million to continue establishing domestic production of Molybdenum-99 (Mo-99). This funding is provided through the Laboratory and Partnership Support account within the National Nuclear Safety Administration (NNSA). We are encouraged that both chambers addressed this urgent need, and respectfully note our further support for language that clearly delineates the use of the entire $20 million for NNSA’s medical isotope program, as we interpret the House report. Additionally, we hope that the Department of Energy (DOE) can be directed to use maximum flexibility in allowing pre-award funding for those expenses directly related to projects from the beginning of Fiscal Year 2018.

The undersigned are a coalition of patients, health care providers, medical imaging companies, radiopharmaceutical manufacturers, and distributors unified in our concern about secure supply of Mo-99. Despite Congress passing the American Medical Isotope Production Act of 2012 (AMIPA), a sufficient domestic supply has not been established. Currently, the global Mo-99 industry has been facing supply challenges, meaning patient access to these important nuclear medicine procedures continues to be at risk.

As active members of the health care industry and profession, we regularly witness the immeasurable benefits Mo-99 provides as a critical nuclear medicine product, used in over thirty distinct diagnostic procedures. These procedures include myocardial perfusion tests for heart disease (stress tests) and bone scans to determine whether a cancer in question is metastatic. In total, more than 50 million scans are performed each year, of which approximately half benefit patients here in the United States.
We would like to thank the House and Senate Energy and Water committee members for their attention to this urgent matter. The additional $20 million allows for projects to continue to progress and gets the United States one step closer to a dependable domestic supply of Mo-99.

Sincerely,

Greg Piefer  
Chief Executive Officer  
Shine Medical Technologies

George Messina  
President and CEO  
NorthStar Medical Technologies, LLC

Chris Vessell  
U.S. Nuclear Medicine Supply Chain Leader  
GE Healthcare

Prem Soman, M.D., PhD  
President  
American Society of Nuclear Cardiology

Tiffany Olsen  
President, Nuclear Pharmacy Services  
Cardinal Health

Satoshi Minoshima, MD, PhD  
President  
Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging

Christopher W. Hansen  
President  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

Michael Valentine, M.D., FACC  
President  
American College of Cardiology

Michael P. Duffy  
Senior Vice President, General Counsel  
Lantheus Medical Imaging, Inc.

Gloria Romanelli, JD  
Senior Director, Legislative and Regulatory Relations  
American College of Radiology
Jonathan B. Frey  
Vice President, Product Management  
Molecular Imaging  
Siemens Healthineers

cc: Senator Richard Shelby  
Senator John Boozman  
Senator Steve Daines  
Senator James Lankford  
Senator Patrick Leahy  
Senator Dianne Feinstein  
Senator Brian Schatz  
Senator Chris Murphy  
Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen  
Congressman John Carter  
Congressman Ken Calvert  
Congressman Jeff Fortenberry  
Congressman Charles Fleischmann  
Congresswoman Jaime Herrera Beutler  
Congressman Scott Taylor  
Congresswoman Nita Lowey  
Congressman Peter Visclosky  
Congressman Tim Ryan  
Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz