

CALL & EMAIL YOUR REPRESENTATIVES TO REQUEST A MEETING OR TELEPHONE TOWN HALL MEETING DEDICATED SOLELY TO CHRONIC PAIN PATIENTS:

FIND YOUR REPRESENTATIVES HERE: <http://myreps.datamade.us>

Request to speak with the **health care policy staff member or scheduler**.

Inform them that you are a **member of a large advocacy group fighting for the rights of pain patients**.

Ask to set up a **face to face meeting or a telephone town hall meeting** as soon as possible.

ASK FOR THE **DIRECT PHONE NUMBER AND EMAIL ADDRESSES** FOR THE MAIN SCHEDULER AND/OR HEALTH CARE POLICY STAFF MEMBERS. **BRIEFLY EXPLAIN YOUR REQUEST AND FOLLOW UP WITH THE OFFICIAL TOWN HALL MEETING REQUEST VIA EMAIL (TEMPLATE PROVIDED BELOW)**

If you're unable to reach anyone to get an email address, you can **go to their website and fill out a meeting request form** directly through the website.

You can **copy and paste the letter below** into the website form. **BUT PLEASE NOTE THAT IT MAY EXCEED THE NUMBER OF CHARACTERS ALLOWED SO PLEASE ADJUST/EDIT THE REQUEST ACCORDINGLY.**

Also **ask if there happens to be an upcoming town hall or opioid summit already scheduled in your State.**

If so, make sure to **attend the meeting(s)** and ask your legislator in front of your city town about where they stand on **untreated pain crisis** and what they plan to do to **protect** the rights of chronic pain patients and doctors. **REMIND THEM THAT WE WILL VOTE ON THIS ISSUE IN NOVEMBER!**

If you have any questions please feel free to ask us for help!

EMAIL: PAINWARRIORSTEAM@GMAIL.COM

Good luck!

RE: TOWN HALL MEETING REQUEST

TOPIC: PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF CHRONIC PAIN PATIENTS & DOCTORS WHO PRESCRIBE OPIOID PAIN MEDICATION FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF PAIN

Dear _____,

I respectfully request that you initiate a well publicized Town Hall Meeting on this most URGENT topic BEFORE voting on ANY legislation regarding the above referenced matter. Due to the high degree of divisiveness surrounding this issue, the Town Hall forum is important. A great number of citizens have become frustrated for seemingly not listening to the citizens. We want a Town Hall meeting where citizens can ask questions, get answers and make statements.

Citizens want to (and should) be heard in an open and transparent meeting so all can participate in the decisions that will ultimately impact the lives of MILLIONS of legitimate pain patients and their loved ones in a grossly NEGATIVE way. There is NO reason for our government agencies to forcibly restrict or limit the amount of opioid pain medication licenced physicians are allowed to prescribe to their own patients who suffer from any type of chronically painful disease or illness.

We've been seeing numerous town hall meetings, opioid summits, and public service TV campaigns on the State and Federal level to educate the public about the grim statistics of the OVERDOSE EPIDEMIC and I commend and applaud your efforts to reduce the outrageous number of deaths caused by illicit fentanyl and street drugs. However, why is the plight of millions of legitimate pain patients being overlooked and our needs being ignored?

Specifically, the CDC prescribing "guidelines" are now being misinterpreted and implemented as "law" in several states and compassionate doctors are being forced to drastically reduce or completely discontinue prescribing opioid pain medication because of government interference and threats of prosecution against them. Many are retiring early, closing their practice, or discharging/abandoning their entire patient load leaving THOUSANDS of us scrambling to find a doctor willing to treat and prescribe medication for our painful conditions. We feel useless and unimportant, as we are being thrown to the wolves.

Of course we must do everything possible to combat the nation's **OVERDOSE & ADDICTION** crisis, however, the pendulum has swung too far in the **WRONG** direction. As chronic intractable pain patients, we deserve and demand immediate representation and protection from our State and Federal elected officials by issuing a **Pain Patients Protection Policy and Bill of Rights** to be incorporated and clearly stipulated in any and all current or future laws, rules, regulations, and proposed legislation impeding on the doctor-patient relationship and their ability to prescribe our life saving opioid pain medications.

There has been much criticism of our government's lack of transparency and this could help to ameliorate the criticism on this issue. As I stated, this meeting needs to be well publicized and well in advance of the meeting itself, so everyone who wants to participate can do so either in person or via telephone or video conference (Skype).

Since our lives are hanging in the balance, please ensure the meeting takes place soon, and long before any more decisions are made and tax dollars spent in an attempt to solve one problem only to create another.

Thank you in advance for your immediate attention regarding this most URGENT matter.

Respectfully submitted,

(YOUR NAME)

(YOUR CITY AND STATE)