December 9, 2019

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader McCarthy, Majority Leader McConnell, and Minority Leader Schumer:

As new members of Congress whose districts include innovators and entrepreneurs in the medical device industry, we write in support of urgent action to repeal the medical device tax before the end of the year. The current suspension of the medical device tax expires on December 31, 2019. This looming tax increase will impact medical technology innovation and job creation, and threatens to destabilize the marketplace for this industry and the patients it serves. It is critical to the health and sustainability of this vital American manufacturing industry that this tax not be reinstated.

The states we represent employ many of the 400,000 Americans who work in the medical device industry. These constituents typically earn a salary that is higher than the national average, contributing to our state and local economies. The innovative technology this manufacturing sector and employees create has transformed medical care, creating better outcomes and higher quality care for patients.

Legislation to repeal the medical device tax enjoys broad bipartisan support in both the House and the Senate. Members recognize the impact this tax has on our constituents, both in terms of access to the medical devices and diagnostic tools developed, and in their employment.

The 2.3% tax on revenue, rather than income, is misplaced, and it deters innovation, company formation, and economic growth. As some companies plan their budgets for 2020, they will continue to move forward with decisions based on the assumption that the tax will return.

According to data from the U.S. Department of Commerce, nearly 29,000 American jobs in this industry were lost while the medical device excise tax was in effect from 2013 to 2015. With the tax now suspended, medical technology companies across the country are investing resources
into critical research and development and the jobs that accompany these important activities. This investment leads to advancements that benefit all Americans.

We support repeal of the medical device tax because Americans and patients everywhere who rely upon these innovative technologies will ultimately suffer the burdens if this tax goes back into effect. The House and Senate must act as soon as possible. We owe it to our constituents to act, and we look forward to working with you to accomplish this goal.

Sincerely,

Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress

Kendra S. Horn
Member of Congress

Susie Lee
Member of Congress

Ben McAdams
Member of Congress

Kim Schrier
Member of Congress

Joe Cunningham
Member of Congress

Cindy Axne
Member of Congress

Chris Pappas
Member of Congress

Lucy McBath
Member of Congress

Jeff Van Drew
Member of Congress

Angie Craig
Member of Congress

Harley Rouda
Member of Congress
Tom Malinowski  
Member of Congress

Lori Trahan  
Member of Congress

Madeleine Dean  
Member of Congress

Anthony Brindisi  
Member of Congress

Dean Phillips  
Member of Congress

Katie Porter  
Member of Congress

José Gottheimer  
Member of Congress

Ann Kirkpatrick  
Member of Congress