

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2405

COMMITTEE ON
APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION,
AND FORESTRY

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND
NATURAL RESOURCES

COMMITTEE ON
RULES AND
ADMINISTRATION

April 22, 2020

The Honorable Stephen Hahn
Commissioner
U.S. Food and Drug Administration
10903 New Hampshire Avenue
Silver Spring, Maryland 20993

Dear Commissioner Hahn,

I write to you to express my strong support for the application for an Emergency Use Authorization (EUA) for the Robertson Ventilator (RV1). Dr. Charles Robertson of the University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMMC) in Jackson, Mississippi, developed the RV1 as a low-cost ventilator option for use in hospitals experiencing a ventilator shortage due to COVID-19. On March, 28, 2020, UMMC and Dr. Robertson applied for the ventilator EUA. The approval of the RV1 would allow UMMC and other healthcare facilities to use the device in emergencies, potentially saving lives.

RV1 is made from items that can be readily purchased at a hardware store, which is important during these times of medical supply chain disruptions. Easy to assemble, this ventilator is cost efficient with a total cost of less than \$100 per ventilator. Furthermore, UMMC has demonstrated the safety and efficacy of the ventilator for use during emergencies through testing in its research laboratories under broad physiologic conditions and lung pathologies.

As you proceed with the approval of ventilator EUAs, I ask that you review the RV1 application expeditiously, giving it full and fair consideration, consistent with all applicable rules and regulations. Please contact my chief of staff, Doug Davis, or health policy advisor, Elizabeth Henry, should you have any further questions.

I appreciate your swift action to approve ventilator EUAs during this time. I look forward to working with you toward approval of this innovative Mississippi product.

Sincerely,



CINDY HYDE-SMITH
United States Senator