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Contact: Joy Burwell  
202-263-2971  
[jburwell@amplifypublicaffairs.net](mailto:jburwell@amplifypublicaffairs.net)

## **An expert on mobile health regulation, mHealth Regulatory Coalition chosen to testify at House Energy and Commerce Hearing**

Coalition urges FDA to release mobile medical app final guidance

WASHINGTON D.C. - On Tuesday Bradley Merrill Thompson testified on behalf of the mHealth Regulatory Coalition in front of the House Energy and Commerce's Subcommittee on Technology and Communications. The hearing entitled, "Health Information Technologies: Harnessing Wireless Innovation" focused on the regulation of mobile health apps and the implications of varying levels of regulation.

Both the witnesses and Subcommittee members were in clear agreement that the FDA needs to provide guidance on mobile health app regulation, and soon. Speaking for the coalition Thompson made three points in his testimony. The first was that FDA needs to release its final guidance soon, the second that there needs to be more balanced FDA enforcement in the regulation of mobile health apps and the third that mobile health regulation should remain under the FDA's purview.

The mHealth Regulatory Coalition has been advocating for an appropriately balanced risk based approach in the final guidance that protects patient safety while promoting innovation. The coalition which is representative of the stakeholders in the mobile health industry believes it is critical to have certainty in order for innovative technologies that put the patient first to flourish.

Other hearing witnesses included: Robert Jarrin, Senior Director, Government Affairs at Qualcomm; Ben Chodor, CEO of Happtique; Jonathan Spalter, Chairman of Mobile Future; T. Forcht Dagi, MD, MPH, DmedSc, Partner at HLM Venture Partners and Dr. George Ford, Chief Economist at Phoenix Center for Advanced Legal and Economic Public Policy Studies. More information, including complete written testimonies and an archived webcast of the hearing can be found on the Subcommittee's website at <http://energycommerce.house.gov/hearing/health-information-technologies-harnessing-wireless-innovation>.

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*The mHealth Regulatory Coalition brings together mobile healthcare technology stakeholders to collaborate and develop honest, realistic, and thoughtful regulatory policy perspectives that represent a broad, industry-wide view. Coalition members have joined together to promote their common interests in facilitating the expansion of innovative mHealth technologies that improve patient care. For more information visit: <http://mhealthregulatorycoalition.org/>.*