

DRAFT – 3/25/20

President Donald J. Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As our nation battles the unprecedented challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic, your leadership in responding to the severity of the crisis is greatly appreciated. Stemming the spread of the coronavirus while providing critical support to the U.S. economy is the nation's highest priority. We appreciate your Administration's coordinated efforts, as well as the bipartisan leadership in Congress, to help ensure that our public health emergency and economic challenges are met. We, as patients, consumers, taxpayers, health care providers, payers, and members of the pharmaceutical and medical device pipeline, are ready to work with you and your Administration to ensure that America's patients and our health care system receive the treatments they need at throughout this public health crisis.

As you take action through Executive Order or in coordination with Congress, it is critical that those policies do not restrict access to — or destabilize the supply chain for — currently available pharmaceuticals or medical devices. At this time, while supply chains for a broad range of U.S. industries are stressed due to the global COVID-19 crisis and a number of factors related to the crisis already raised concerns about shortages, it is important that we do not take any measures that could undermine the complex arrangements between firms that allow for efficient delivery of medicines to patients.

Today, patients in the United States and around the world depend on the use of global supply chains that facilitate ongoing access to needed medicines. These supply chains have been built over decades and include appropriate safeguards to ensure safety and efficacy of products. Keeping that supply chain strong is even more critical as we fight a global pandemic. That's why the biopharmaceutical industry has been working together with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to take significant steps to ensure continuity in our medicines supply. Proposals to drive all manufacturing to the United States not only overestimate the potential feasibility and underestimate the time and effort it would take to make such changes, but also misunderstand that a diverse pharmaceutical supply chain is precisely what enables the industry to respond quickly and make adjustments in its supply chain sourcing during natural emergencies and global public health crises.

We are committed to working with you to combat the COVID-19 crisis, ensure continued access to pharmaceuticals and devices for America's patients and providers caring for them, and develop incentives that result in renewing the domestic manufacturing base for health care products in the United States. Thank you for considering our views and for your ongoing leadership during this unprecedented crisis.

Sincerely,

