

June 8, 2021

Dear Arkansas Delegation:

On behalf of the patients we represent, lowering drug prices should be a priority, but H.R. 3 is not the solution. H.R. 3 will limit innovation and restrict access to life-saving medications. H.R. 3 will institute foreign price controls which will reduce research and development globally and as a result limit access to innovative therapies. In fact, in a ten-year time span, there will be a reduction of more than [90% of medicines developed by small and emerging biotechnology companies. And this will disproportionately impact rare diseases, neurology and oncology.](#)

Initially, H.R. 3 will primarily impact Medicare beneficiaries, many of whom have placed their hope in new treatments to give them a better quality of life. Additionally, some Arkansans don't have any approved medications to treat their disease and they have hope in promising new treatments that are on the horizon for their conditions (e.g., ALS and Alzheimer's).

Last year was a challenging year, but it was also one that saw remarkable achievement with three COVID-19 vaccines. Had H.R. 3 been implemented last year, it's hard to imagine that this innovation would have taken place so quickly and collaboratively. H.R. 3 will remove incentives to develop innovative medicines. **Please stand with us in protecting patients' access to new therapies and oppose H.R. 3.** There is no doubt that patients need help in escalating healthcare costs. Policies should be considered that protect access to healthcare, rather than stripping access, while also addressing out-of-pocket costs.

Thank you,

