

May 25, 2021

Dear Members of the Utah Congressional Delegation,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations and the many constituents we represent, we would like to express our concern with the reintroduction of H.R. 3, *The Lower Drug Costs Now Act*, and urge you to oppose this legislation. H.R. 3 would have a devastating impact on patient access to critical medicines and would discourage the growth of and even penalize biopharmaceutical companies that are developing life-changing treatments and cures for patients.

We are particularly concerned with the bill's sweeping government price-setting measures, including international price indexing. We believe these types of policies will erode America's global leadership in medical innovation and have a chilling effect on investment in drug discovery. H.R. 3 would hit emerging biopharmaceutical companies the hardest, including those in our home state. Utah's biopharmaceutical industry accounts for over 7,000 Utah jobs and \$1.1 billion in direct GDP.

In a recent [study](#) from Vital Transformation, it is estimated that if legislation like this was implemented, US patients access to new innovative medicines would be drastic. The study showed there would be a **90% reduction in new medicines** developed by emerging biopharmaceutical companies which is estimated to result in **61 fewer drugs** developed in 10 years. We believe patients should have access to the most effective medicines and therapies available to them, and continued access to new medicines as they become available. H.R. 3 as mentioned above would devastate the pipeline of new innovative medicines in our county, and patients may be forced to use less than optimal drugs which would lower the quality of their care.

We recognize the need to look at ways to lower the cost of prescription drugs, but do not believe H.R. 3 is the right approach. Instead, Congress should consider H.R. 19, *Lower Costs, More Cures Act*, bi-partisan legislation that focuses on patient-centered reforms to lower out-of-pocket spending while protecting access and the creation of new medicines and treatments.

Thank you for your consideration in opposing H.R. 3 and we look forward to working with you to advance other more effective approaches that put access and patients first.

Sincerely,

BioUtah
Centro Civico Mexicano
First Step House
International Cancer Advocacy Network
Mental Healthy FIT
Northern Utah Coalition
Patel Family Investments



PATEL FAMILY INVESTMENTS, LLC