



Dear Louisiana Delegation:

We encourage our leaders in D.C. to bring forward practical solutions to lower prescription drug prices, but H.R. 3 is not the answer. After an extraordinary year of health challenges, one thing is clear – we need greater innovation and broader access to life-saving therapies.

Implementing prescription drug price controls will limit access to innovative therapies and suppress worldwide private investment in research and development, leading to fewer medicines each year. A recent study estimated we would see a reduction of [90%+ of medicines developed by small and emerging biotechs — 61 fewer medicines over 10 years](#) – if we implemented H.R. 3. That number is unacceptable to the patients and families continuing to wait for a new treatment or cure.

[More than 50%](#) of Louisiana residents live with at least one chronic condition, and numbers are rising among our youth. The chronic disease community often depends on innovative medications and treatments. Instead of encouraging new innovations to treat this community, H.R. 3 would erode the incentives that are critical to support investments in high-risk research and development to treat the most costly and complex diseases, including cancer, ALS, Alzheimer's, epilepsy, and mental illness. **Patients need access to new medications to alleviate symptoms and improve their quality of life, and we encourage you to join us and oppose H.R. 3.**

Drug prices in foreign countries are often based off assessments that discriminate against seniors, the disabled, and ethnic minorities. And, patients in these other countries often don't have access to the same innovative medicines that people in Louisiana depend on. We cannot implement legislation that risks further widening the health disparities gap exposed by the ongoing pandemic.

We encourage you to implement a more patient-centric approach to address the rising out-of-pocket costs in healthcare for patients. We must implement policies that address affordability barriers and ensure patients have access to innovative medications to improve their quality of life -- and H.R. 3 does not guarantee either.

Sincerely,
American Senior Alliance
H.E.A.L.S. of the South
Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana
Epilepsy U
Louisiana Hemophilia Foundation
Louisiana Oncology Society
Lupus and Allied Diseases Association
Multiple Sclerosis Foundation