

























May 13, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson Speaker of the House **United States House of Representatives** Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Thune Majority Leader **United States Senate** Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Speaker and Majority Leader Thune:

On behalf of the Coalition Against Socialized Medicine (CASM) and 23 partner organizations, we write to express strong opposition to the potential inclusion of a "Most Favored Nation" (MFN) pricing model in the forthcoming budget reconciliation package.

This policy would tie U.S. drug prices to those set by foreign governments. Many of these countries have socialist single-payer healthcare systems and impose strict price controls that delay or deny access to lifesaving treatments. Bringing those policies into our own healthcare system would threaten vulnerable patients, weaken American innovation, and replace market-driven competition with government-dictated prices.

For example, Medicaid already receives the lowest prices in the U.S. market. Manufacturers are required to offer discounts that routinely exceed 50%. Replacing that structure with MFN-based pricing would dramatically expand the number of drugs sold at a loss -- an outcome that is already occurring for some medicines today.

If manufacturers determine that selling to Medicaid at artificially low prices is no longer sustainable, they could be forced to withdraw from the program. That would disrupt access to medicines for patients who rely on Medicaid and trigger spillover effects in Medicare Part B, which requires manufacturers to participate in Medicaid for their products to be reimbursed. As a result, seniors and low-income patients could face higher costs or lose access to treatments for cancer, rare diseases, and other serious conditions.

MFN would also undermine one of President Trump's most important achievements: bringing pharmaceutical investment and manufacturing back to the United States. Since his election, companies have already announced roughly \$230 billion in new U.S.-based manufacturing and research projects. Adopting foreign price controls would halt this progress and potentially hand a strategic advantage to competitors like China and India, which have invested heavily in their domestic biotech industries in recent years.

























The U.S. biopharmaceutical industry is one of the <u>strongest sectors</u> of the American economy. Nearly <u>two-thirds</u> of all new medicines developed over the past decade were created by American companies. That leadership is possible because our system rewards innovation. Replacing it with a model based on foreign government pricesetting would only discourage investment in new cures.

There are smarter ways to reduce costs. Congress should begin by rooting out the waste, fraud, and abuse that drive up spending in both <u>Medicaid</u> and <u>Medicare</u>. Targeted reforms include requiring more frequent eligibility checks, ending special treatment for able-bodied adults, and stopping states from using provider taxes to inflate federal payments. These steps could save more than \$1 trillion while protecting access for the truly needy.

Congress should also rein in the corporate middlemen who drive up prices while providing no real value for patients. Pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) often pocket large rebates while patients pay more at the pharmacy counter. Any serious approach to lowering costs must include transparency and accountability for PBMs.

At the same time, lawmakers must address the very real problem of foreign freeloading. Wealthy countries routinely underpay for American-developed medicines while enjoying the benefits of our innovation ecosystem. Congress should take steps to ensure that our trading partners contribute their fair share rather than placing the full burden on U.S. patients and taxpayers. That would be a true "America First" reform.

We also urge you to consider the <u>measurable damage</u> already caused by Biden-era drug price control policies. The MFN model would build on those mistakes, making it harder for American companies to compete and innovate and for patients to get the care they need.

This is a critical moment. The MFN model is not real reform. It is a deeply flawed proposal that would put foreign bureaucrats in charge of decisions that should be made by American patients and doctors. We respectfully urge you to reject this policy and support solutions that protect innovation, strengthen access and affordability, and put America first.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Andrew Langer Ginevra Joyce-Myers
Executive Director Executive Director

Coalition Against Socialized Medicine Center for Innovation and Free

Enterprise

James L. Martin

Founder & Chairman Peter Pitts 60 Plus Association President

Center for Medicine in the Public

Saul Anuzis Interest

President

60 Plus Association James Edwards

Founder & Executive Director

Tim Chapman Conservatives for Property Rights

President

Advancing American Freedom Matthew Kandrach

President

Phil Kerpen Consumer Action for a Strong Economy

President

American Commitment Frederik Roeder

Managing Director

Tirzah Duren Consumer Choice Center

President

American Consumer Institute Elizabeth Hicks

U.S. Affairs Analyst

Dee Stewart Consumer Choice Center

President

Americans for a Balanced Budget George Landrith

President

Ryan Ellis Frontiers of Freedom

President

Center for a Free Economy Mario H. Lopez

President

Anthony Zagotta Hispanic Leadership Fund

President

Center for American Principles Jerry Rogers

Vice President

Jeffrey Mazzella Institute for Liberty

President

Center for Individual Freedom Charlie Sauer

President

Market Institute

Pete Sepp President

National Taxpayers Union

Sally Pipes Karen Kerrigan
President & CEO

President Small Business & Entrepreneurship

Pacific Research Institute Council

Wayne Winegarden David Williams
Sr. Fellow and Director of Center for President

Medical Economics and Innovation Taxpayers Protection Alliance

Pacific Research Institute

Kent Kaiser

John Tamny Executive Director

President Trade Alliance to Promote Prosperity

Parkview Institute

Cc:

The Honorable Bill Cassidy, United States Senate

The Honorable Mike Crapo, United States Senate

The Honorable Brett Guthrie, United States House of Representatives