

June 29, 2022

The Honorable Frank Pallone Chairman Committee on Energy and Commerce United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Anna Eshoo Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Health Committee on Energy and Commerce United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers Ranking Member Committee on Energy and Commerce United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Brett Guthrie Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Health Committee on Energy and Commerce United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Pallone, Chairwoman Eshoo, Ranking Member Rodgers, and Ranking Member Guthrie:

On behalf of the Healthcare Supply Chain Association (HSCA), which represents the nation's leading healthcare group purchasing organizations (GPOs), we thank you for your bipartisan leadership in committee on the *Food and Drug Amendments Act of 2022*, which the House of Representatives recently passed with overwhelming support by a vote of 392-28. Timely access to safe and effective drugs, devices, products, and biologics for all Americans is of critical importance to GPOs, which serve as the sourcing partners to virtually all hospitals, clinics, ambulatory surgery centers, and long-term care facilities.

HSCA applauds the passage of this critical legislation that reauthorizes the Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA), the Generic Drug User Fee Amendments (GDUFA), and the Biosimilar User Fee Act (BsUFA), and provides the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) with the funding and resources the agency needs to fulfill its stated mission of protecting the public health and accelerating innovation in the industry. Additionally, HSCA would like to highlight its support for provisions in the legislation to reform the accelerated approval program at the FDA, improve clinical trials by requiring a diversity action plan, lower the cost of prescription drugs and bring affordable generics to market, and address the baby formula shortage.

Before and during the pandemic, GPOs have been committed to preventing and mitigating prescription drug shortages. HSCA developed <u>this overview</u> of how GPOs work with suppliers, providers, and government officials to ensure continued patient access to essential medications. Throughout the course of the pandemic, GPOs have drawn on their experience to communicate product demand surges and help manufacturers expand capacity; add new and non-traditional suppliers to contracts to shore up domestic manufacturing and avert shortages; and protect providers from counterfeit or inferior products. We recently compiled our <u>learnings and best practices</u> from the GPO industry COVID-19 response that highlighted a number of examples of the way GPOs helped health care providers respond to the unprecedented demands of the pandemic, and we appreciate your efforts to address many of these concerns through the *Food and Drug Amendments Act of 2022*.

Thank you again for your leadership in helping the country prepare for future pandemics and other public health threats. We look forward to continuing to serve as a resource to your office, other Members of Congress, and all stakeholders. If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me directly at (202) 629-5833 or tebert@supplychainassociation.org.

Sincerely,

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Todd Ebert, R. Ph. President & CEO Healthcare Supply Chain Association (HSCA)