



April 9, 2021

Dear Speaker Pelosi,

Congratulations on your continued leadership as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. On behalf of America's biopharmaceutical innovators and many building trades unions, we are writing to express our commitment to working with you as you address the difficult challenges confronting the nation.

These are unprecedented times given the damage to both public health and the American economy caused by COVID-19. The Pharmaceutical Industry Labor-Management Association (PILMA) comprises the nation's biopharmaceutical companies and many building trades unions that invest over \$1.6 billion annually to train the world's most skilled workers. They are indispensable in performing the exacting, precise work that is essential to construct facilities where life-saving medicines are developed and manufactured.

Without this partnership, biopharmaceutical innovators would not have been able to research, develop and manufacture the COVID-19 vaccines and treatments that are helping to save lives today and bringing us hope for an eventual end to this pandemic.

We are hopeful that the need for ongoing research and development to confront an evolving viral threat, along with the importance of economic development and job creation during this critical time, will help guide your policy agenda in this Congress.

The link between a robust, innovative biopharmaceutical sector in the United States and job growth is undeniable. PILMA conducted a study in 11 states that showed nearly 250 major biopharmaceutical construction projects over a five-year period. Those building projects generated 15.6 million union labor hours, \$450 million in paychecks for working families, and tens of millions of dollars to support health plans and pension benefits. These are good-paying jobs requiring skilled workers.

But there is another link that is critical – the effect that public policy has on biopharmaceutical investment and growth in this country. In the midst of health and economic crises, that effect is more important than ever.

It is necessary to recognize the damage that will be done from setting price controls for pharmaceutical products at an artificially-low level. The Trump Administration's "Most Favored Nation" rule is particularly harmful in this regard, tethering pricing in the United States to those in other countries that utilize heavy-handed price controls and do not have the investments in domestic pharmaceutical manufacturing that we do in America. In the 1980s, Europe was the global leader in biopharmaceutical investment. Today, after European countries adopted price controls, nearly 75 cents of every biopharmaceutical venture capital dollar are invested in the United States. If we surrender that superiority, we also sacrifice growth and jobs.

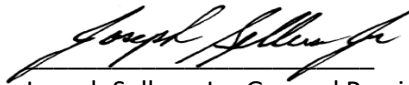
That is why, similarly, we hope Congress will steer away from legislation that embraces central price controlling structures that will reduce available research and development resources, curtail facility building growth, and incentivize investors to send capital funds to other countries seeking to supplant America as the world's innovation leader.

There are alternative policy approaches that will make medications more accessible and affordable for patients and consumers. We are supportive, for example, of measures to reduce patient costs and direct more negotiated discounts and rebates to consumers at the pharmacy counter or via mail order. The Biden Administration recently put a hold, for review, on a rule that would more directly translate those discounts to savings for Medicare Part D patients, and we hope you will join us in urging them to pursue its immediate implementation.

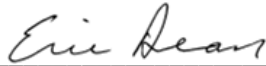
We look forward to working with you in the coming months. We hope you will view PILMA and its members as sources for information and clarity on critical issues this Congress will be considering.

Thank you, Madam Speaker, for continuing the strong leadership our country needs in these challenging times.

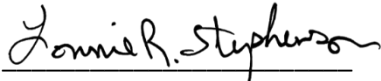
Signed:



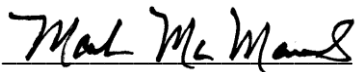
Joseph Sellers, Jr., General President, International Association of Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation Workers



Eric Dean, General President, International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers



Lonnie R. Stephenson, General President, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers



Mark McManus, General President, United Association of Plumbers, Fitters, Welders & Service Techs



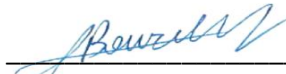
James T. Callahan, General President, International Union of Operating Engineers



Stephen J. Ubl, President & CEO, PhRMA




David A. Ricks, Chairman & CEO, Eli Lilly and Company



Albert Bourla, DVM, Ph.D, Chairman & CEO, Pfizer, Inc.



Alexander Hardy, CEO, Genentech



Maya Martinez-Davis, President-US Pharmaceuticals, GlaxoSmithKline