

September 9, 2020

Please Sign Onto Bipartisan DeGette-McKinley Letter to HHS Seeking 340B Program Protection

Dear Representative Graves:

I am writing on behalf of the National Alliance of Safety-Net Hospitals to ask you to [sign onto a letter](#) being circulated by a bipartisan group of your colleagues, Reps. David McKinley (R-W.Va.), Diana DeGette (D-Colo.), Greg Gianforte (R-Mont.), Dusty Johnson (R-S.D.), Doris Matsui (D-Calif.), and Peter Welch (D-Vt.), asking Health and Human Services Secretary Alex Azar to intervene in the recent efforts by pharmaceutical companies to deny the discounts on prescription drugs to which qualified providers are legally entitled under the section 340B prescription drug discount program.

The 340B program is essential for private safety-net hospitals and others like them throughout the country, enabling them to obtain discounts on prescription drugs they dispense on an outpatient basis to qualified, low-income patients. The program greatly enhances the ability of hospitals to serve their low-income patients and does not cost taxpayers a single dime, but in recent weeks several pharmaceutical companies have taken steps to prevent hospitals from receiving the prescription drug discounts that Congress clearly intended when it created the 340B program nearly 30 years ago.

This bipartisan letter asks Secretary Azar to use his authority to require drug companies to comply with the law and preserve access to discounted prescription drugs for qualified safety-net hospitals, health centers, clinics, and others that serve especially large numbers of low-income patients.

To sign the letter, please contact Sherie Lou Santos with Rep. DeGette's office at (SherieLou.Santos@mail.house.gov) or Kirsten Wing with Rep. McKinley's office (Kirsten.Wing@mail.house.gov). *The deadline for signing on is tomorrow, September 10, so we ask you to act right away.*

We appreciate your consideration of this request and welcome any questions you may have about how the 340B program enhances the ability of private safety-net hospitals to serve their low-income patients.

Sincerely,

Ellen Kugler, Esq.
Executive Director

