



Healthcare Distribution Alliance

PATIENTS MOVE US.

November 18, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Minority Leader of the House
2468 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Majority Leader
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Leader McConnell, and Leader Schumer:

On behalf of the Healthcare Distribution Alliance (HDA) and its 35 member companies, representing pharmaceutical distributors responsible for the safe, efficient, and reliable delivery of 93 percent of medicines purchased in the United States, we urge you to support the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) request for supplemental appropriations to cover operations related to the costs of planning, preparing for, distributing and administering a COVID-19 vaccine. This funding will provide mission critical support to the successful immunization of Americans and respond to an urgent need across the country as state and local governments, as well as private sector partners, prepare to rapidly provide broad-based distribution and access to a vaccine once it reaches regulatory approval.

The successful development of COVID-19 vaccines will mark a groundbreaking step in our fight against the pandemic. However, the massive demand for approved vaccines and therapies as they come to market will require extensive coordination across the pharmaceutical supply chain and with the public sector. Without additional funding, we are concerned efforts to prepare vaccination sites, leverage existing infrastructure, prepare for moving and storing vaccines, and provide critical guidance to healthcare providers may be delayed or undermined. This funding has already been included in both the House and Senate's respective COVID-19 relief packages, an acknowledgment of the critical need for these funds.

There are many components to the approval, distribution and administration of a COVID-19 vaccine. HDA applauds the federal government's decision to leverage the logistics expertise of HDA members to distribute COVID-19 vaccines upon approval as a critical first step in ensuring these breakthrough medicines will be distributed safely and efficiently to point-of-care sites across the country. The decision reaffirms the importance of public-private collaboration and the critical role it has played, and will continue to do so, in our nation's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

This is a moment that requires urgent action in Congress. We ask that you provide the supplemental funding to help the CDC respond effectively and efficiently to the challenges it has to overcome now

and in the coming months. We appreciate your long-standing leadership and thank you for considering our request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Chester W. Davis, Jr.".

Chester "Chip" Davis, Jr.
President and Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Chairwoman Nita Lowey
Ranking Member Kay Granger
Chairman Richard Shelby
Ranking Member Patrick Leahy
Chairwoman Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member Tom Cole
Chairman Roy Blunt
Ranking Member Patty Murray