June 23, 2009

The Honorable Edward M. Kennedy Chairman, Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions 317 Russell Senate Building Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Michael B. Enzi Ranking Member, Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions 379A Russell Senate Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Kennedy and Ranking Member Enzi:

On behalf of patients, physicians, researchers, and other stakeholders in the medical research enterprise, we commend your efforts to enact true health reform, and we support your commitment to include a regulatory pathway for follow-on biologics, or biosimilars, in the Committee's healthcare reform legislation. We appreciate the difficult balance you are trying to establish between the need to reduce costs and increase access to biologic therapies while also advancing patient safety and incentives for the development of new life-saving biologics.

We jointly express our support for the inclusion of the *Biologics Price Competition and Innovation Act of 2007*, S. 1695, the compromise legislation reported by the Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee in the 110th Congress, in the *Affordable Health Choices Act*, and oppose replacing that language with the *Promoting Innovation and Access to Life-Saving Medicine Act*, S. 726. While we understand additional modifications will be needed before passage, including the addition of pediatric incentives, we urge the Committee to respect the carefully crafted balance between access, patient safety, and future medical breakthroughs inherent in S. 1695.

Thank you again for your leadership and we look forward to working with you on this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Acorda Therapeutics, Inc.
Affiliated American CSA Foundation
Affymax Inc.
Alamo Breast Cancer Foundation
Alliance for Aging Research
Alliance for Patient Access
Allograft Research Technologies
American Association of Orthopaedic Surgeons
American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association
Arizona BioIndustry Association
Association of American Universities
Association of University Technology Managers
Autism Society of Colorado
Azaya Therapeutics, Inc.

BayBio

BIO Austin

BIOCOM

BioFlorida

BioForward

BioHouston

BioMed SA

BioMed San Antonio

BioNJ

BioOhio

Biotechnology Association of Maine

BostonBio Com, LLC

Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce

California Healthcare Institute

Californians For Cures

Cambridge Chamber of Commerce

Celiac Disease Center at Columbia University

Ceregene, Inc.

Children's Neurobiological Solutions

Children's Tumor Foundation

Colon Cancer Alliance

Colorado BioScience Association

CombinatoRx, Incorporated

Conatus Pharmaceuticals Inc.

Craig Hospital for Brain and Spinal Cord Injury

CURE, The Center of Connecticut's BioScience Cluster

Cutaneous Lymphoma Foundation

Dan Onorato, Allegheny County Executive

Delaware BioScience Association

Development Corporation of Abilene

Dr. Bruce Holm, New York State Center of Excellence in Bioinformatics & Life Sciences

Dr. Charles Sanders, Former CEO & Chair of Glaxo, Inc. Former General Director of Massachusetts General Hospital and professor of medicine at Harvard School of Medicine

Dr. Jordan Cohen, Vice President for Research, University of Iowa

Dr. Richard Dean, President Emeritus, Wake Forest University Health Sciences and former CEO, Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center

Dr. Suresh Sidh, Chesapeake Urology Associates

East River Science Park

Erickson Retirement Communities

Fitzsimons Redevelopment Authority

Frank DiCicco, Philadelphia City Councilman

Frank Dinucci, President and CEO BostonBioCom, LLC

GenVec, Inc

Georgia Bio

Geron Corporation

GlycoMimetics, Inc

Greater Baltimore Committee

Gregory M. Weinhoff, MD., CHL Medical Partners

Hawaii Science & Technology Council

Hershey Center for Applied Research

Hydra Biosciences

Illinois Biotechnology Industry Organization (iBIO®)

ImaRx Therapeutics, Inc.

In Toone Communications

Indiana Health Industry Forum

INDUNIV Research Consortium / BioAlliance Puerto Rico

Infabloc Pharmaceuticals

Inspire Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Institute for African American Health

Integrated DNA Technologies

International Cancer Advocacy Network

inVentiv Clinical Solutions, LLC.

Iowa Biotechnology Association

Iowa State Senator Amanda Ragan, Assistant Majority Leader

Iowa State Senator Matt McCoy

Johns Hopkins Institutions

KansasBio

Kemin Nutrisurance, Inc

Len Fruchter, Fruchter Rosen & Company

Life Sciences Greenhouse of Central Pennsylvania

LifeScience Alley

Luis Miranda, Former Chair, New York City Health & Hospitals Association

Lupus Foundation of Mid and Northern New York

Manzanita Pharmaceuticals, Inc.

Massachusetts Biomedical Initiatives

Massachusetts Biotechnology Council

Massachusetts Society of Optometrists

Max Formal Company

Mayor Scott Padgett, Concord, NC

Mayor William V. Bell, Durham, NC

MDA Venture Philanthropy

MdBio Division of the Tech Council of Maryland

Men's Health Network

Merrimack Valley Economic Development Council, Inc.

Metabolex, Inc.

MichBio

Mid-Atlantic LifeSpan

Missouri Biotechnology Association

Montana BioScience Alliance

National Alliance for Caregiving

National Alliance on Mental Illness

National Alopecia Areata Foundation

National Kidney Foundation

National Venture Capital Association

Neurotech

New England Biotech Association

New York Biotechnology Association

North Carolina Biosciences Organization

Northern Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce

OncoMed Pharmaceuticals

Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy

Pennsylvania Bio

Peptimmune, Inc.

Peter Feld, Public Health Research

Pharmaceutical Services Corporation

Polaris Venture Partners

PTV Sciences

Q Therapeutics

Queens Chamber of Commerce

Research for Cure

RetireSafe

Rhode Island BIOGroup

Rhode Island State Nurses Association

Sage Management Group

San Antonio Chamber

Shire

South Dakota Biotech Association

South Shore Chamber of Commerce

Southern California Biomedical Council

State Representative John Sabatina, Jr., Pennsylvania

State Representative Rick Taylor, Pennsylvania

State Representative Scott Petri, Pennsylvania

State Representative Tim Briggs, Pennsylvania

State Representative Tony Payton, Jr., Pennsylvania

Symphony Capital LLC

Tennessee Biotechnology Association

Terapio Inc.

Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute

Texas Life-sciences Collaboration Center

Texas Research and Technology Foundation

The AIDS Institute

The ALS Association

The Greater Raleigh Chamber of Commerce

The Research Triangle Regional Partnership

The Sjögren's Syndrome Foundation

The Sturge-Weber Foundation

The University of North Carolina

Trevena Inc.

University City Science Center

Urban Sun Investments

Utah Technology Council

Vietnam Veterans of America

Vilano Associates

Virginia Biotechnology Association

Vital Options International

vSpring Capital

Wake County Economic Development

Washington Biotechnology & Biomedical Association

Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation

Worcester Regional Chamber of Commerce

cc: Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions