

The Partnership for
 **SAFEMEDICINES**

8100 Boone Blvd., Suite 220 * Vienna, VA 22182 * 703-679-SAFE * www.safemedicines.org

The Honorable Frederick Stephen Upton
Chairman
Committee on Energy and Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Boehner
Office of the Speaker
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

May 21, 2013

Dear Speaker Boehner and Chairman Upton:

On behalf of the Partnership for Safe Medicines (PSM), **we write today in strong support of H.R. 1919**, the “Safeguarding America’s Pharmaceuticals Act”.

PSM is a not for profit, consumer focused organization that seeks to keep Americans safe from counterfeit drugs through patient and healthcare provider education and awareness. In the US we work with a coalition of over 70 healthcare professional and patient groups to improve patients’ and their healthcare providers’ knowledge about where they obtain their medication, how they can save money safely, and how to safely identify licensed pharmaceutical distributors.

PSM strongly supports the creation of a national uniform track and trace or pedigree system that would allow all participants in the supply chain to verify a product’s history of sale.

Today, our system of prescription drug distribution heavily relies on trusting the entity you’re dealing with and their judgment. If a mistake is made, or anyone farther back in the supply chain makes a mistake in purchasing a substandard drug product, there is no ability for a good actor down the line to know this. Criminals have taken advantage of this fact, and such incidents are growing in number every year. Life-saving medications that treat osteoporosis, cancer, heart disease, and many other serious medical conditions have been faked just in the last few years, as the rules of the road have failed to keep up with the innovative nature of the criminals that prey on American patients.

The Partnership for Safe Medicines has been working to educate healthcare professionals about the dangers of counterfeit drugs since 2002, and is grateful that legislation to secure the supply chain is now being considered. We thank you for your leadership is making more patients safer, and we look forward to working with you to advance the goal of making all Americans safer from counterfeit drugs.

Respectfully,



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/s/

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/s/

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/s/

Tom Kubic
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