

February 14, 2012

The Honorable Leonard Lance
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jay Inslee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Lance and Inslee:

We, the undersigned organizations, wish to express our sincere gratitude to you for your sponsorship and introduction of HR 3497, the Modernizing Our Drugs and Diagnostics Evaluation and Regulatory Network (MODDERN) Cures Act of 2011 and offer our support in your efforts to ensure passage of the legislation. The bill you have proposed creates a truly vital pathway for the development of new cures and treatments that have the potential to improve the lives of millions of Americans living with chronic diseases and disabilities.

We endorse and support the MODDERN Cures Act.

Many conditions currently have few or no treatments to affect the course of the illness. People with chronic diseases and disabilities such as ALS, Alzheimer's disease, cancer, polycystic kidney disease, lupus, and Parkinson's disease are desperately in need of therapies that will stop or slow the progression of the disease or even offer a cure. Others who are living with conditions like arthritis, epilepsy, psoriasis, multiple sclerosis, and mental disorders may have treatments but lack tools to predict which will work best for them. With this legislation, you have provided the incentive for researchers to pursue innovative therapies that would otherwise be abandoned for reasons having nothing to do with efficacy or safety, and to develop innovative diagnostic tests that help deliver personalized medicine.

We look forward to working with you to ensure passage of this urgently needed legislation to speed new treatments and improve existing treatments for millions of Americans living with chronic conditions.

Sincerely,

AdvaMedDx
Alpha-1 Association
Alpha-1 Foundation
ALS Association
American Association for Respiratory Care
American Autoimmune Related Diseases Association
American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
American Liver Foundation
Amputee Coalition
Arthritis Foundation
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America
COPD Foundation
Digestive Disease National Coalition
Easter Seals

Epilepsy Foundation
HealthHIV
Huntington's Disease Society of America
Hydrocephalus Association
Immune Deficiency Foundation
Interstitial Cystitis Association
LAM Foundation
Lupus Foundation of America
Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation
National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Alopecia Areata Foundation
National Eczema Association
National Foundation for Ectodermal Dysplasias
National Health Council
National Hemophilia Foundation
National Marfan Foundation
National MS Society
National Psoriasis Foundation
Neuropathy Association
Osteogenesis Imperfecta Foundation
Polycystic Kidney Disease Foundation
Prevent Blindness America
Pulmonary Hypertension Association
RESOLVE: The National Infertility Association
Roche Diagnostics Corporation
Scleroderma Foundation
Society of Nuclear Medicine
Sjögren's Syndrome Foundation
Spina Bifida Association
U.S. Hereditary Angioedema Association
Us TOO International Prostate Cancer Education & Support Network