

May 27, 2021

The Honorable Kyrsten Sinema
317 Hart Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mark Kelly
404 Russell Senate Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom O'Halleran
324 Cannon House Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ann Kirkpatrick
309 Cannon House Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Raul Grijalva
1511 Longworth House Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Paul Gosar
2057 Rayburn House Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Andy Biggs
1318 Longworth House Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable David Schweikert
1526 Longworth House Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Ruben Gallego
1131 Longworth House Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Debbie Lesko
1113 Longworth House Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Greg Stanton
207 Cannon House Building
Washington, DC 20515

To the Honorable Arizona Senators and Congressional Delegation:

As members of the patient advocate community here in Arizona, we applaud your efforts to work on behalf of patients and those who are most needy in our population. Whether it is working to streamline new cures or driving a bill to help Veterans with their mental health treatment, Arizona is lucky to have a delegation that works hard on creating solutions.

We hope that you will continue to work on our behalf as health care reform legislation works its way through Congress. Supporting caps on out-of-pocket spending for those struggling to pay for their treatments should be a major priority in any reform. Patients shouldn't have to be put in a position to have to choose between shelter, food, and prescription medication.

We also hope that you will continue to promote innovation. The ultimate goal of any disease community or organization is the eradication of that disease. We saw with the development of the COVID-19 vaccine that great things are possible. Treatments for cancer, blood diseases, brain injury, Alzheimers, HIV/AIDS, and many other conditions are progressing at an incredible pace and we must not stop that momentum.

We also hope that any legislation continues to promote patient access. The U.S. currently has access to 89% of new drugs, while many of the largest European countries with pricing controls have access to roughly 50%. The opportunities for patients to take new, innovative treatments is something we should promote in this country, not impede.

Thank you all for the leadership you have provided when it comes to protecting patients and listening to their voice on these matters.

Sincerely,

