

July 24, 2018

United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Members of Congress:

The Global Health Technologies Coalition (GHTC)—a group of more than 25 organizations working to save and improve lives by encouraging the research and development of essential health technologies to bring healthy lives within reach for all people — writes in support of the *Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Advancing Innovation Act of 2018* (H.R. 6378), which is important legislation reauthorizing programs vital to ensuring public health safety through preparedness and our ability to respond to emerging biosecurity threats.

GHTC commends Representatives Brooks and Eshoo for their leadership on this issue as well as the Members and staff of the House Energy and Commerce Committee for their hard work and dedication to this effort. As a result of these efforts, we were pleased to see key priorities included in the legislation including support for the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority's (BARDA) role in the advanced development of medical countermeasures (MCMs) to address naturally occurring threats with pandemic and epidemic potential. While BARDA is currently authorized to advance MCMs for emerging infectious diseases (EIDs), work in the space has lagged and previous efforts were advanced primarily only through emergency funding provided in response to the Ebola and Zika virus crises. BARDA has a unique and unmatched ability to mobilize diverse stakeholders and industry to advance late-stage development of critical MCMs. Therefore, we applaud the Committee for ensuring BARDA has ample resources and authority to address EIDs as well as pandemic influenza and drug-resistant infectious diseases through the combination of targeted programs and strategic initiatives included in H.R. 6378.

We stand as a partner ready to work with Congress and the Administration to advance U.S. leadership in MCM research and development, particularly for naturally occurring and antimicrobial resistant threats. On the heels of the Ebola and Zika crisis, Congress has a great opportunity to ensure our country is better prepared for the next outbreak. We reiterate our support for H.R. 6378 and look forward to our continued work together on this and other issues critical to our nation's public health security.

Please do not hesitate to contact GHTC Director Jamie Bay Nishi at [jnishi@ghtcoalition.org](mailto:jnishi@ghtcoalition.org) or (202) 540-4379, if you have questions or need any additional information.

Sincerely,

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