



May 13, 2013

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman
House Energy and Commerce Committee
Room 2125 Rayburn Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Upton:

We are writing to express our support for your work in advancing H.R. 1407, a bill to amend the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act with respect to the pharmaceutical supply chain. Your leadership and your committee staff are to be commended for bringing this bill before the full committee this week for consideration. We also applaud the authors of this bill better known as the "track & trace" legislation, Congressmen Latta (R-OH) and Matheson (D-UT), for their perseverance in developing this important measure.

Healthcare group purchasing organizations (GPOs) play a vital role in the supply chain process. Our member companies regularly track data related to the safety and efficacy of pharmaceuticals. In addition, our members have systems in place to detect when there is a potential for supply chain disruption and quickly communicate with manufacturers and wholesalers and distributors in foreseeing any problems.

We work hand-in-hand with hospitals, ambulatory care facilities, nursing homes and home health agencies to ensure they have products essential to the operation of their facilities. The GPO mission is to contract for those products and services, including drugs, that provide the best value for a reliable and safe supply of goods and services. The proposed legislation, H.R. 1407, ensures that all industry leaders within the health care delivery system are working collaboratively toward this goal.

Thank you again for your commitment to this issue. We look forward to working with you and your staff as the Committee addresses supply chain policy matters vital to the distribution of life-saving medicines.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "C. Rooney", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Curtis Rooney
President
Healthcare Supply Chain Association