



September 14, 2015

The Honorable Susan Brooks
1505 House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Anna Eshoo
241 Cannon House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Brooks and Eshoo:

On behalf of the Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO), I am writing with our support for H.R. 3299, the Strengthening Public Health Emergency Response Act of 2015. I wish to commend you for introducing this legislation, and look forward to continuing to work with you this year on this important measure.

BIO represents more than 1,100 biotechnology companies, academic institutions, state biotechnology centers and related organizations across the United States. BIO members are involved in the research and development of healthcare, agricultural, industrial and environmental biotechnology products. Our member companies play a central role in ensuring the development and manufacture of medical countermeasures (MCMs) to protect our nation's citizens against chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) attacks as well as naturally-occurring infectious disease threats, such as pandemic influenza.

Your legislation recognizes that more must be done to incentivize MCM research and development, improve the public-private partnership by streamlining the contracting process, and increase transparency around future MCM funding needs across all types of threats. This is particularly important since most products do not have a commercial market to help spur investment. Significant barriers to countermeasure development still exist and your legislation takes critical steps towards addressing these so that we as a nation are more fully prepared to effectively respond to health security threats.

Again, BIO supports H.R. 3299, and looks forward to working with you both, as well as Chairman Fred Upton (R-MI) and Ranking Member Frank Pallone (D-NJ) and all the Members of the Energy and Commerce Committee to further this important bill.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Greenwood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jim" being more prominent than the last name "Greenwood".

James C. Greenwood
President & CEO