

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

September 9, 2020

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Chairman
House Committee on Energy & Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Greg Walden
Ranking Member
House Committee on Energy & Commerce
2322 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Pallone and Ranking Member Walden:

We are writing to urge the Committee on Energy and Commerce to favorably report out H.R. 5373, bipartisan legislation of ours reauthorizing funding for the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA).

We are grateful to the Committee for considering this important legislation at its legislative hearing on July 29 and at its legislative markup on September 9. As we wrote to you in July, current funding for USADA expires this year; our legislation would reauthorize the program through Fiscal Year 2027, and provides a slight funding increase to account for increased USADA activities before and during the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles.

Our legislation also requires USADA to devote a portion of its funding to safety and clean sport initiatives for young athletes, and authorizes the Department of Justice and other federal agencies to cooperate with USADA in the course of related investigations.

Given that the abuse of performance enhancing drugs often begins at young age, and given the numerous documented instances of young athletes pressured by adults in their periphery to abuse such substances, it is critical for Congress and USADA to bolster education, safety and enforcement measures for these athletes.

We thank the Committee for considering H.R. 5373 at its legislative markup, and urge the Committee to favorably report out this important legislation to the full House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

MIKE THOMPSON
Member of Congress

DIANA DEGETTE
Member of Congress

BILL JOHNSON
Member of Congress