April 22, 2021

The Honorable Kurt Schrader
U.S. House of Representatives
2431 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Adam Kinzinger
U.S. House of Representatives
2245 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

To Congressman Schrader and Congressman Kinzinger:

Thank you for your leadership in introducing *The BIOSIMS Act* (H.R. 2815). Biosimilars are critical treatments for America's patients and *The BIOSIMS Act* would take an important step in advancing biosimilar use and savings in the U.S. **On behalf of biosimilar developers and manufacturers, the Association for Accessible Medicines (AAM) and its Biosimilars Council are pleased to offer our support and endorsement of *The BIOSIMS Act*.**

Since the first biosimilar medicine was approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in 2015, 20 new, more affordable biosimilars are now available to patients suffering from serious conditions including cancer, rheumatoid arthritis, plaque psoriasis and chronic kidney disease. Biosimilars are also more affordable. Biosimilars provide an average cost savings of 30 percent compared to the price of the brand-name biologic.[1] However, despite the cost savings, the use of biosimilar medicines has trailed expectations. Thus, innovative policies such as *The BIOSIMS Act* are critical to accelerating physician adoption and access for patients.

The BIOSIMS Act addresses one of the barriers to greater biosimilar adoption by providing a temporary increase in reimbursement (ASP+8%) to physicians and hospitals when they use a biosimilar. Physicians and hospitals play a critical role in the use of biosimilars, and new data reveals that reimbursement impacts biosimilar adoption.[2] Encouraging provider adoption of biosimilars helps support competition and ensure savings is provided to patients, the health care system and Medicare.

Biosimilar medicines hold enormous potential to reduce the cost of prescription drugs and significantly increase patient access to these novel treatments. Nearly half of U.S. spending on prescription drugs is on brand-name biologics and other specialty medicines. By increasing reimbursement for providers, biosimilar utilization can be increased and help drive savings for patients and the U.S. health care system. Making progress on biosimilar adoption in the U.S. could bring new hope to patients and improve the health of millions.[3]

We appreciate your work on behalf of patient access to biosimilars and look forward to working with you to advance this bipartisan legislation into law.

Sincerely,

Dan Leonard
President & CEO, AAM

Christine Simmon
Executive Director, Biosimilars Council

[1] https://www.iqvia.com/insights/the-iqvia-institute/reports/biosimilars-in-the-united-states-2020-2024
[2] https://accessiblemeds.org/resources/blog/new-analyses-point-opportunities-increase-savings-biosimilar-adoption
[3] https://biosimilarscouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Biosimilars-Council-Patient-Access-Study.pdf