



April 28, 2021

The Honorable John Cornyn
U.S. Senate
517 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Michael Bennet
U.S. Senate
261 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cornyn and Senator Bennet:

Thank you for your leadership in introducing *The Increasing Access to Biosimilars Act* (S. 1427). Biosimilar medicines hold enormous promise to significantly increase patient access to advanced treatments and reduce the cost of prescription drugs. Innovative solutions such as *The Increasing Access to Biosimilars Act* are needed, however, to encourage greater biosimilar adoption and use 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 Increasing Access to Biosimilars Act*.**

Millions of America's patients stand ready to benefit from increased access to biosimilar medicines.¹ Brand-name specialty medicines – including biologics – are driving spending growth on prescription drugs and now account for nearly half of all spending on pharmaceuticals in the U.S. Biosimilars provide a more affordable option for patients with average savings of 30% compared to the brand-name biologic.² However, despite the cost savings, the use of biosimilar medicines has trailed expectations, and biosimilar adoption continues to face headwinds.³

The Increasing Access to Biosimilars Act would take a critical step toward enhancing patient access to biosimilars through the creation of a voluntary, shared savings demonstration program in Medicare Part B. Physicians and hospitals play an important role in biosimilar adoption and research demonstrates how reimbursement policy impacts the use of biosimilars.⁴ Through a shared savings demonstration, providers would be encouraged to prescribe lower-cost biosimilar medicines and savings would be guaranteed to the federal government. An independent analysis conducted to assess the potential impact shows that a shared savings demonstration could save more than \$4 billion for seniors and \$12 billion for the Medicare program over the next 10 years.

The Increasing Access to Biosimilars Act would make progress on biosimilar adoption in the U.S., bringing hope to patients and improving the health of millions. We appreciate your leadership 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://biosimilarscouncil.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Biosimilars-Council-Patient-Access-Study.pdf>

² <https://www.secureourmeds.org/media/2021/02/AAM-Sustainable-Markets-report.pdf>

³ <https://accessiblemeds.org/resources/blog/new-analyses-point-opportunities-increase-savings-biosimilar-adoption>

⁴ <https://www.iqvia.com/locations/united-states/library/white-papers/biosimilars-in-the-us-reimbursement-and-impacts-to-uptake>