



the campaign for  
**SUSTAINABLE Rx PRICING**

March 23, 2023

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Chairwoman  
House Energy and Commerce Committee  
2188 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone  
Ranking Member  
House Energy and Commerce  
2107 Rayburn Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Rodgers, Ranking Member Pallone, and Members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Campaign for Sustainable Rx Pricing (CSRxP), which is a nonpartisan coalition of organizations committed to fostering an informed discussion on sustainable drug pricing and to developing bipartisan, market-based solutions that promote competition, transparency, and value to improve affordability while maintaining patient access to innovative prescription drugs that can improve health outcomes and save lives. Our members represent organizations including consumers, hospitals, physicians, nurses, pharmacists, employers, pharmacy benefit companies and insurance providers.

CSRxP is greatly concerned that H.R. 485 would limit the information patients and providers have about the value and effectiveness of prescription drugs. Without this information, patients and providers together would be severely limited in their ability to make informed decisions about the best treatment options to meet patient needs. We are very concerned about the chilling effect this legislation would have on this vital research.

H.R.485 would prohibit use of Quality Adjusted Life Years (QALYs) and “other similar measures” in drug price negotiations in federal and state health programs including Medicare, Medicaid and the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program (FEHBP). Imposing this unnecessary constraint on pricing negotiations would have serious adverse impacts on patients and taxpayers who bear the burden of unjustifiably high-priced drugs. It is simply common sense that these programs should pay more for drugs that offer high value to patients and less for drugs that do not offer the same value. Moreover, we are extremely concerned that disconnecting prescription drug prices from value will discourage drug companies from developing more effective treatments.

CSRxP firmly agrees that the rights and needs of all Americans can and should be reflected in value assessments for prescription drugs, and experts have confirmed that there are multiple approaches that do not discriminate against the disabled, elderly, and terminally ill.



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If research that includes comparative effectiveness and other value assessments is prohibited from being included in drug pricing negotiations, pharmaceutical companies will be able to continue the egregious pricing practices they employ today, setting unsustainable and out-of-control drug prices based on “what the market will bear.”

This is again why we respectfully urge the Committee to not move forward with H.R. 485. We urge the Committee to instead focus on the development and implementation of bipartisan, market-based solutions that will slow the unsustainable growth in prescription drug prices for U.S. consumers and taxpayers without imperiling the discovery of innovative breakthrough therapies that can improve the health and well-being of all patients.

Sincerely,

Lauren Aronson  
Executive Director  
The Campaign for Sustainable Rx Pricing