August 2, 2013

The Hon. John Boehner
Speaker of the House
U.S. Capitol, H-232
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Hon. Nancy Pelosi
House Minority Leader
U.S. Capitol, H-204
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner and Minority Leader Pelosi:

We write to express our bipartisan support for the existing 340B drug discount program, a 20-year old law that expands access to medical needs for many of our most vulnerable neighbors and helps to reduce pharmaceutical costs for hundreds of hospitals that serve many low-income residents of our states.

Also, in tough times, importantly, the 340B program has reduced Federal and state government spending on prescription drugs by billions of dollars and successfully increases access to drugs for low income and other vulnerable patients served by 340B providers.

Our 340B hospitals report that the program enables them to expand health care services to the community, increase the number of patients they serve, or offset losses from uncompensated care. All of this benefits our neighbors who need assistance the most. Given the significant economic pressures on these safety net providers, any threat to these savings means that these community-based initiatives are at great risk of not being able to serve our most vulnerable neighbors.

On behalf of the millions of our neighbors who rely upon safety net providers, we urge you to resist any legislative efforts to change the law’s mission – to help safety net providers “stretch scarce Federal resources as far as possible, reaching more eligible patients and providing more comprehensive services.”

Sincerely,

Shelley Moore Capito
Member of Congress

Kathy Castor
Member of Congress
Hakeem S. Jeunes
Member of Congress

Sam Farr
Member of Congress

Jared Polis
Member of Congress

David P. Joyce
Member of Congress

Mike Kelly
Member of Congress

Joseph P. Kennedy, III
Member of Congress

Michael H. Michaud
Member of Congress

David Loebsack
Member of Congress

Tim Ryan
Member of Congress

Raul Ruiz
Member of Congress

Kristi L. Noem
Member of Congress

Raúl M. Grijalva
Member of Congress

Paul Cook
Member of Congress

Allyson Y. Schwartz
Member of Congress

Theodore E. Deutch
Member of Congress

Reid J. Ribble
Member of Congress

Christopher P. Gibson
Member of Congress
Jo Bonner  
Member of Congress

Marcy Kaptur  
Member of Congress

Robert J. Wittman  
Member of Congress

Ted Poe  
Member of Congress

Janice D. Schakowsky  
Member of Congress

Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress

Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress

Gwen Moore  
Member of Congress

Lois Capps  
Member of Congress

Petra A. DeFazio  
Member of Congress

C.W. Bill Young  
Member of Congress

John A. Culberson  
Member of Congress

Carolyn B. Maloney  
Member of Congress

Collin C. Peterson  
Member of Congress

Ruben Hinojosa  
Member of Congress

Gene Green  
Member of Congress

Thomas E. Petri  
Member of Congress
William L. Owens  
Member of Congress

Blake Farenthold  
Member of Congress

Chris Stewart  
Member of Congress

Glenn Thompson  
Member of Congress

Richard L. Hanna  
Member of Congress

John A. Vargas  
Member of Congress

Marc A. Vceasey  
Member of Congress

Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress

John Lewis  
Member of Congress

Robert Brady  
Member of Congress

Peter T. King  
Member of Congress

Dan Benishek  
Member of Congress

Suzanne Bonamici  
Member of Congress

Timothy H. Bishop  
Member of Congress

Filemon Vela  
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress