

April 17, 2017

The Honorable Peter Welch 2303 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable David McKinley 2239 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Welch and Representative McKinley:

I am writing on behalf of Vizient, Inc. to offer our support for the Fair Access for Safe and Timely (FAST) Generics Act. We are pleased to endorse your bipartisan legislation which may help slow increasing drug costs for patients and hospitals by promoting competition through increasing availability of generic drug alternatives.

Vizient is the nation's largest health care performance improvement company. We serve a diverse membership that includes the nation's leading academic medical centers, pediatric facilities, community hospitals, integrated healthcare delivery networks and non-acute health care providers. Our headquarters are in Irving, Texas, with locations in Chicago, Washington, D.C., and other cities across the country.

Your bill will take steps to close loopholes and reduce abuses though the Food and Drug Administration's Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies (REMS) process. Currently, name brand drug manufacturers take advantage of loopholes in rules designed to promote safety to prevent or delay meaningful generic drug competition from entering the marketplace. At a time when patients and hospitals see steadily increasing prescription drug costs, your legislation will take important steps to improve FDA processes and promote increased generic competition in the prescription drug marketplace. We applaud your leadership on this needed legislation and support passage of the bill.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at <a href="mailto:shoshana.krilow@vizientinc.com">shoshana.krilow@vizientinc.com</a> or (202) 354-2607 if you have any questions about Vizient or if there is any way we can be of assistance in advancing this legislation.

We thank you for your continued commitment to enhancing competition and reducing prices for prescription drugs.

Sincerely,

Shoshana Krilow

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Vice President, Public Policy and Government Relations

Vizient, Inc.