



December 13, 2023

The Honorable Bernie Sanders  
Chairman  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor,  
and Pensions  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Cassidy, MD  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Health, Education, Labor,  
and Pensions  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Sanders and Ranking Member Cassidy:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce welcomes the committee's efforts on the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (PAHPA). Enhancing America's biosecurity and health care emergency preparedness are top Chamber priorities.

Among other things, PAHPA bolsters the nation's biosafety and biosecurity, addresses the needs of at-risk populations, strengthens public health communications, and supports innovative technologies.

The Chamber strongly supported the passage of the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Advancing Innovation Act of 2019 (P.L. 116-22). Many PAHPA authorities and programs expired on September 30, 2023, requiring temporary extensions in the latest continuing resolution (P.L. 118-22) until January 19, 2024.

We urge lawmakers to prioritize funding the Strategic National Stockpile at the "professional judgment" level, creating a Public Health Emergency Medical Countermeasures Enterprise industry advisory committee, and establishing more transparency in the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response's medical countermeasure requirement-setting processes.

The Chamber commends Congress for extending PAHPA several times since it was established in 2006 and for the important work of your committee to ensuring that this program is reauthorized once again.

We look forward to working with you to enhance our nation's ability to respond effectively to public health emergencies, whether deliberate, accidental, or natural.

Sincerely,

Chris Roberti  
Senior Vice President  
Cyber, Intelligence, and  
Supply Chain Security Policy  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce