

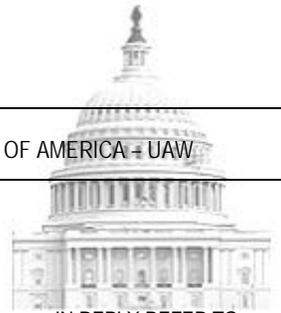


INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA - UAW

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IN REPLY REFER TO

February 15, 2007

1757 N STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036
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Representative Henry Waxman
U. S. House of Representatives
2204 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Waxman:

The UAW strongly supports the "Access to Life-Savings Drugs Act," which would give the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) the authority to approve generic versions of biotech drugs. In our view, the availability of generic biotech drugs will result in greater affordability and access to life-saving drugs. We commend you for your leadership in sponsoring this important legislation.

Biotech drugs show great potential for treating an array of life-threatening illnesses, but are extremely expensive. In our judgment, the "Access to Life –Saving Drugs Act" would go a long way toward alleviating the financial burdens that would be placed on individuals who are in great need of such drugs.

We know from experience with some of the less costly medications that generic drugs save patients and payers more than \$10 billion annually. Given that biotech drugs are far more expensive, generic versions would result in even greater savings. In our view, this legislation would reduce costs and maintain high quality care. Such savings would make access to biotech drugs more affordable for all Americans who need them.

The UAW strongly supports this legislation. We look forward to working with you to assure its speedy consideration and enactment.

Sincerely,

Alan Reuther
Legislative Director

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