



## **Make Medications Affordable by Preventing Pandemic Price-gouging (MMAPPP) Act (H.R.7296/ S.4439)**

**The Problem:** The COVID-19 pandemic has caused a public health and economic crisis that has ravaged communities across the globe. Millions of individuals have been infected with the virus, and the economic fallout from the pandemic will likely be felt for years to come. Safe, effective and accessible medications—including a future vaccine—are essential to overcoming the COVID-19 pandemic. After investing billions of dollars into the development and manufacturing of several COVID-19 treatments and vaccine candidates, the American people and those abroad deserve access to these medications without financial barriers.

**The Solution:** The global development community seeks to ensure that COVID-19 vaccines and treatments are treated as global public goods, free and available to all – prioritizing those most in need, not those most able to pay. The MMAPPP Act establishes that any taxpayer-funded vaccine or treatment for COVID-19 proven to be safe and effective will be accessible, affordable and available to all individuals. Specifically, the bill would:

- Prohibit monopolies and exclusive licensing of taxpayer-funded drugs that are used to diagnose, mitigate, prevent or treat COVID-19 to ensure these drugs are universally and fairly accessible;
- Require the federal government to mandate reasonably affordable prices for any new, taxpayer-funded drugs used to diagnose, mitigate, prevent or treat COVID-19;
- Safeguard transparency by requiring manufacturers to publicly report a detailed breakdown of expenditures related to any drug used to diagnose, mitigate, prevent or treat COVID-19, including specifying what percentage of expenditures were sourced from taxpayers; and
- Prevent price gouging of drugs used to treat future diseases that would cause a public health emergency by waiving exclusive licenses and providing companies reasonable compensation.

The MMAPPP Act will prevent pharmaceutical companies from profiting off the global pandemic while providing people across the globe with access to treatment they can afford.

**Supporters:** Rep. Schakowsky (D-IL), co-lead by Reps. Rooney (R-FL), Doggett (D-TX), DeLauro (D-CT), and DeFazio (D-OR) introduced H.R. 7296 on June 22, 2020 and Senators Smith (D-MN) and Merkley (D-OR) introduced S. 4439 on August 5, 2020.