



Lower the Cost of Prescription Drugs

One in four Americans say it is “difficult” to afford their prescriptions, according to a recent Kaiser Family Foundation survey. And while there has never been a more exciting time in biomedical research, that progress is meaningless if patients cannot afford these new lifesaving drugs.

The Lower Health Care Costs Act of 2019 will lower prescription drug prices by:

- **Ensuring makers of brand drugs are not gaming the system** to prevent new, lower cost generics or biosimilars from coming to market.
- Helping bring biosimilars to market faster to ensure **patients can better afford promising biologic medicines**, which include cutting-edge treatments for serious and life-threatening conditions and other established products such as insulin.
- Eliminating a loophole where first-filer generic drug applicants to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) can block other generic drugs from being approved.
- Educating health care providers and patients on biological products and biosimilars, which are the lower-cost version of biological products, to encourage their use where appropriate for patients.
- **Helping generic-drug and biosimilar companies speed drug development** and avoid patent infringement through transparent, modernized and searchable patent databases.
- Enhancing drug price transparency by making publicly available information required to be reported by certain manufacturers that sharply increase the cost of their prescription drugs, including information explaining what led to such increase, as well as the costs associated with the development and approval of the drug.