



December 14, 2023

President Joe Biden
United States of America
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Re: San Diegans Will Benefit from Biden-Harris Actions to Hold Greedy Pharmaceutical Companies Accountable

Dear President Biden,

Your Administration's recent action to make costly, commonly-used prescription drugs more financially accessible to all Americans by seizing the patents of high-priced medicines is being celebrated in San Diego County. Many of my constituents will benefit from your bold, courageous actions to take on predatory pharmaceutical companies and stand up for vulnerable people, especially our seniors.

A small number of drug manufacturers for too long have had a stronghold on the prescription drug market, raking in the overwhelming majority of the profits by artificially inducing drug shortages and driving up the price. These drug companies have completely ignored that the American people have underwritten hundreds of billions of dollars for research and development of the medication they sell for exorbitant amounts of money. Working families are paying sometimes hundreds of dollars per pill when they visit the pharmacy, and this must stop.

The people of San Diego County are resilient and understand how to stretch a dollar, but when it comes to vital medicine they need to fight off cancer, live with diabetes, thwart the crippling effects of rheumatoid arthritis, or deal with recurring mental health issues, pinching pennies on out-of-control prescription drug prices is not an option. I was appalled to learn that [three in ten individuals](#) have a hard time paying for the medications they need. I support your Administration's plans to make taxpayer-funded medications more affordable and accessible to all Americans. Many of my constituents, to their detriment, end up going without their medicine so they can afford their rent, or put food on the table. It is a sad truth the County of San Diego has been working to address.

In our County, particularly over the last three years, we have made significant investments to keep San Diegans housed and put food in their bellies, but your plan to lower prescription drug costs will give San Diegans and all Americans, the financial cushion they need in their bank accounts to buy their medicine, and still be able to fix the engine in the car they use to get to work, and maintain the home where they to raise their family.

Your leadership and policies to reduce prescription drug prices, lower healthcare costs and make tax-payer-funded medications more readily available is what Americans need right now. The relief you are working to provide to the people of San Diego County, and the entire United States, will change the lives of many, and save the lives of many more.

You have my complete support and if there is anything my office can do, please know I stand ready to help you get this done. You can contact me at 619-531-5533 or Terra.Lawson-Remer@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Terra Lawson-Remer', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Terra Lawson-Remer
Vice Chair, Board of Supervisors
County of San Diego, California

CC: Kamala Harris, Vice President, United States of America

Caroline Smith, Director, County of San Diego Office of Economic Development & Government Affairs