

March 25, 2020

The Honorable Steven T. Mnuchin  
U.S. Department of the Treasury  
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C. 20220

The Honorable Robert Lighthizer  
Office of the U.S. Trade Representative  
600 17th Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20006

The Honorable Wilbur Ross  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
1401 Constitution Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20230

The Honorable Lawrence Kudlow  
National Economic Council  
1650 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear Secretary Mnuchin, Secretary Ross, Ambassador Lighthizer, and Director Kudlow:

The undersigned organizations applaud the Trump Administration's focused response to the coronavirus pandemic. The Administration's encouragement of public-private partnerships to quickly develop a vaccine for COVID-19 and expand the supply of medical countermeasures will yield results in the days and weeks ahead. Tech companies mapping the spread of the coronavirus as well as FDA efforts to ease regulations and increase testing capacities are vital tools as we fight this pandemic. American companies will do whatever it takes to support America's pandemic response and will continue to work hand in glove with government to get the job done.

While we are encouraged by this partnership and the Administration's ongoing efforts with our international allies to respond to the pandemic with all available resources, we are concerned by reports of a draft "Buy American" executive order that could be counterproductive to these efforts. Such an order may delay the discovery of a COVID-19 vaccine and other treatments, worsen shortages of critically-needed medicines and medical products, and undermine prospects for economic recovery.

Now more than ever, U.S. industries require access to international supply chains to produce critically-needed medical products. The United States simply does not produce all of the raw materials or intermediate goods that are essential to drug development or production of the medical equipment needed to thwart this pandemic. Preventing federal agencies from sourcing medical equipment and pharmaceutical ingredients from abroad — or that are made with non-U.S. inputs — would only exacerbate the supply shortages racking the United States.

Further, as the world's most innovative economy, the United States cannot shut itself off from the rest of the world. Turning our backs on trading partners during a crisis could damage our relationships long after this pandemic ends. If we implement localization requirements, many of our trade partners would assuredly follow our lead and limit imports from the United States.

For these reasons, we respectfully ask that the Trump administration reconsider an immediate move to expand the reach of "Buy American" mandates to the medical equipment and biopharmaceutical sectors. The present national emergency has raised awareness of supply chain

vulnerabilities, and American industries look forward to working with the administration to solve those challenges with well-thought-out solutions.

Today, our shared priority must be to defeat COVID-19. The U.S. business community is committed to doing whatever it takes — working in close partnership with you — to achieve this goal.

Sincerely,

***National Organizations***

Advanced Medical Technology Association (AdvaMed)  
Association for Accessible Medicines  
Biotechnology Innovation Organization  
Center for Healthcare Innovation  
Consumer Healthcare Products Association  
FreeThink Technologies, Inc.  
Global Business Alliance (formerly OFII)  
Healthcare Distribution Alliance  
Hobson Associates  
Incubate Coalition  
Medical Device Manufacturers Association  
National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations  
National Association of Specialty Pharmacy  
National Electrical Manufacturers Association  
National Foreign Trade Council  
National Retail Federation  
Opportunity Through Entrepreneurship Foundation  
Personal Care Products Council  
Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (PhRMA)  
Pro 15  
Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA)  
Schaefer Technologies, Inc.  
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council  
The Latino Coalition  
The National Puerto Rican Chamber of Commerce  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce  
United States Council for International Business  
White Hat Health Ventures

***State and Local Organizations (continued on next page)***

*State and Local Organizations (alphabetical by state)*

BIO Alabama	AL
The Lighthouse Group	AL
Woodlawn Business Association	AL
Arizona Bioindustry Association, Inc.	AZ
Biocom - Life Science Association of California	CA
California Life Sciences Association	CA
Colorado BioScience Association	CO
Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce	CO
CBIA Connecticut Bioscience Growth Council	CT
Central CT Chambers of Commerce	CT
Connecticut Peer Review Organization, Inc. dba Qualidigm	CT
Greater New Haven Chamber of Commerce	CT
MetroHartford Alliance	CT
Naugatuck Chamber of Commerce	CT
The Chamber of Commerce, Windham Region	CT
Waterbury Regional Chamber of Commerce	CT
Watertown Oakville Chamber of Commerce	CT
Delaware Bioscience Association	DE
Florida State Hispanic Chamber of Commerce	FL
Georgia Bio	GA
Ames Chamber of Commerce	IA
Black Healthcare and Medical Association	IL
Illinois Biotechnology Innovation Organization (iBIO)	IL
National Hispanic Life Sciences Society	IL
Women in Healthcare and Medical Association	IL
Indiana Health Industry Forum	IN
Indiana Medical Device Manufacturers Council	IN
Kentucky Life Sciences Council	KY
Massachusetts High Technology Council	MA
MassBio	MA
New England Venture Capital Association	MA
Michigan Biosciences Industry Association (MichBio)	MI
Medical Alley Association	MN
BioNexus KC	MO
Missouri Biotechnology Association	MO
Montana BioScience Alliance	MT
Charlotte Regional Business Alliance	NC
Greater Durham Chamber of Commerce	NC
North Carolina Biosciences Organization	NC

North Carolina Biotechnology Center	NC
Bio Nebraska	NE
BioNJ	NJ
Commerce and Industry Association of New Jersey	NJ
HealthCare Institute of New Jersey (HINJ)	NJ
New Jersey Mayors Committee on Life Sciences	NJ
New Mexico Biotechnology & Biomedical Association (NMBio)	NM
NewYorkBIO	NY
BioOhio	OH
Oregon Bioscience Association	OR
Life Sciences Pennsylvania	PA
South Dakota Biotech	SD
Life Science Tennessee	TN
North Texas Commission	TX
Rio Grande Valley Partnership	TX
Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute (THBI)	TX
BioUtah	UT
Health Industry Distributors Association	VA
Virginia Biotechnology Association	VA
Association of WA Business	WA
Economic Alliance Snohomish County	WA
Life Science Washington	WA
BioForward Wisconsin	WI
Bioscience Association of West Virginia	WV