

June 1, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
House Minority Leader  
H-204, The Capitol  
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Senate Majority Leader  
S-230, The Capitol  
Washington D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Senate Minority Leader  
S-221, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader McCarthy, Majority Leader McConnell, and Minority Leader Schumer:

As Congress and the Administration work to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, AmerisourceBergen (ABC) and MWI Animal Health (MWI) write to express support for H.R. 3771/S. 1903, *The Advancing Emergency Preparedness Through One Health Act of 2019 (the One Health Act)*, led by Congressmen Kurt Schrader (D-OR) and Ted Yoho (R-FL) in the House of Representatives and Senators Tina Smith (D-MN) and Todd Young (R-IN) in the Senate. We support this bipartisan and bicameral legislation and ask for inclusion of *the One Health Act* in future COVID-19 response legislation.

ABC, a pharmaceutical distribution and services company, distributes over 30% of all pharmaceuticals in the United States, shipping more than 3 million products daily. ABC completes 50,000+ daily deliveries to pharmacies, hospitals, veterinarian practices, long-term care facilities and physician offices across the country within 12 hours or less. MWI Animal Health, an ABC business, supplies products and related services to U.S. animal health providers including veterinarians, food producers, ag-retail stores and manufacturers. We are committed to making a meaningful difference in their businesses, the health of animals and the world. MWI Animal Health helps veterinarians deliver the best possible care and maximize practice success and serves food producers to help maintain a safe, secure and efficient production environment.

Introduced in Congress in the summer of 2019 before the onset of COVID-19, *the One Health Act* would require the Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish a coordinated approach, looking through both the human health and animal health perspectives, for the United States to be better prepared for and responsive to zoonotic diseases. HHS and the Department of Agriculture would be required to collaborate and coordinate a one health framework with the United States Agency for International Development, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Homeland Security, Department of the Interior, Department of Defense, Department of Commerce and other federal agencies as appropriate. The framework would be submitted to Congress containing recommendations on how to advance workforce development related to preventing and responding to zoonotic diseases; improve federal agency coordination studying animal and human health; and advance scientific understanding of the synergies among human, animal and environmental health.

COVID-19 is a timely and sobering example of the need for a strong coordinated approach amongst human and animal health experts and multiple federal agencies to ensure the United States is as best prepared for and able to respond to zoonotic disease outbreaks. As a pharmaceutical distribution and services company serving both human and animal health providers, we thank the sponsors of *the One Health Act* and urge inclusion of this commonsense legislation in the next COVID-19 response legislation.



We appreciate your consideration of this important legislation. If you have any questions, please contact Rita Norton at [rnorton@amerisourcebergen.com](mailto:rnorton@amerisourcebergen.com) from our Government Affairs team.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Shaw".

Mark Shaw  
President, AmerisourceBergen Animal Health  
MWI Animal Health

Cc:

The Honorable Lamar Alexander, Chairman, Senate HELP Committee  
The Honorable Patty Murray, Ranking Member, Senate HELP Committee  
The Honorable Frank Pallone, Chairman, House Energy and Commerce Committee  
The Honorable Greg Walden, Ranking Member, House Energy and Commerce Committee  
The Honorable Collin Peterson, Chairman, House Agriculture Committee  
The Honorable Michael Conaway, Ranking Member, House Agriculture Committee  
The Honorable Raúl Grijalva, Chairman, House Natural Resources Committee  
The Honorable Rob Bishop, Ranking Member, House Natural Resources Committee  
The Honorable Eliot Engel, Chairman, House Committee on Foreign Affairs  
The Honorable Michael McCaul, Ranking Member, House Committee on Foreign Affairs  
The Honorable Kurt Schrader (D-OR), House Lead Co-Sponsor of *The One Health Act*  
The Honorable Ted Yoho (R-FL), House Lead Co-Sponsor of *The One Health Act*  
The Honorable Todd Young (R-IN), Senate Lead Co-Sponsor of *The One Health Act*  
The Honorable Tina Smith (D-MN), Senate Lead Co-Sponsor of *The One Health Act*