



2005 Market Street, Suite 2800  
Philadelphia, PA 19103-7077

215.575.9050 Phone

901 E Street NW  
Washington, DC 20004

202.552.2000 Phone

[www.pewtrusts.org](http://www.pewtrusts.org)

July 17, 2018

The Honorable Greg Walden, Chairman  
House Energy and Commerce Committee  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Susan W. Brooks  
House Energy and Commerce Committee  
1030 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone, Ranking  
Member  
House Energy and Commerce Committee  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Anna G. Eshoo  
House Energy and Commerce Committee  
241 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Walden, Ranking Member Pallone, Congresswoman Brooks and  
Congresswoman Eshoo:

The Pew Charitable Trusts thanks you for your continued efforts to respond to the ongoing threat of antibiotic resistance through the introduction of H.R. 6378, the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Advancing Innovation Act of 2018 (PAHPA). This important legislation reauthorizes the essential work of the HHS Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR)'s Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority (BARDA) to address public health emergencies and bring desperately-needed antibiotics to patients. Effective antibacterials are central to the nation's ability to respond to public health threats, including chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear attacks (CBRN), pandemic influenza, and emerging infectious disease – antibiotics are an integral part of the nation's armament to address these threats.

We especially want to thank the Members of the House Energy and Commerce Committee for including language related to antibiotic resistance in Section 302 of PAHPA. This language will ensure that BARDA is explicitly authorized to address all CBRN threats – both intentional and naturally occurring – through robust support of innovative approaches in both preclinical and clinical development. BARDA's unique experience working with industry to drive innovation is particularly important to advance novel therapeutics and preventive interventions and to help bridge the gap between basic science and successful clinical drug development.



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BARDA safeguards our nation's health infrastructure by revitalizing and encouraging antibacterial innovation to ensure that we have a healthy pool of candidate products to address emerging threats. The CARB-X accelerator addresses critical gaps along the early stages of the antibacterial pipeline, and BARDA's Broad Spectrum Antimicrobials program advances therapeutics into late stage clinical development. The two programs work in tandem to support a robust pipeline of novel approaches for highly resistant infections and emerging threat pathogens.

Thank you for continued support of this important work.

Sincerely,

Kathy Talkington  
Antibiotic Resistance Project Director