



The Honorable Jodey Arrington
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

July 21, 2026

Dear Congressman Arrington:

We write today in strong support of H.R. 4780, the “USTRx Act.”

The bill creates a Chief Pharmaceutical Trade Negotiator at the Office of the United States Trade Representative. The sole job of this individual would be to identify foreign price controls and other unfair trade practices related to drugs innovated in the United States that increase costs for American patients. This negotiator would issue an annual report on these practices and recommend remedies as appropriate.

The USTRx Act implements section 3 of President Trump’s executive order on prescription drug pricing, which commits that:

“The Secretary of Commerce and the United States Trade Representative shall take all necessary and appropriate action to ensure foreign countries are not engaged in any act, policy, or practice that may be unreasonable or discriminatory or that may impair United States national security and that has the effect of forcing American patients to pay for a disproportionate amount of global pharmaceutical research and development, including by suppressing the price of pharmaceutical products below fair market value in foreign countries.”

When countries which practice socialized medicine impose a government price control on prescription drugs researched and manufactured in America, or engage in other unfair practices such as reducing IP incentives or market access barriers, it does not mean the costs magically disappear. Rather, the price difference is made up for by American patients paying more than they should have to for the same drugs. It’s become known as “foreign freeloading.”

Americans end up paying more so that foreigners in socialized medicine schemes can pay less. That’s not fair, and it’s time for it to stop.

The simple fact is, when foreign freeloading is imposed by governments such as Germany, France, Italy, Japan, and Canada, the research and development costs of new

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cures and treatments are shirked by those countries. The full cost—plus the foreign freeloading “tax” — is paid for by American seniors and other drug patients. That’s an unfair trade practice, and it’s the Constitutional role of the United States government to prevent that from happening.

The USTRx Act can finally end the practice of foreign freeloading. If successful, it will mean that countries around the world are paying full fair market value for the American prescription drugs they consume, and American patients can stop subsidizing drugs for wealthy foreigners. This is the best way to reduce the price of medicines here at home.

Sincerely,

Charles Sauer
Market Institute

Phil Kerpen
American Commitment

Pete Sepp
National Taxpayers
Union

Daniel J. Mitchell
Center for Freedom and
Prosperity

Kent Kaiser
Trade Alliance to
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Palmer Schoenig
Family Business
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Patrick M. Brenner
Southwest Public Policy
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Dee Stewart
Americans for a
Balanced Budget

Ryan Ellis
Center for a Free Economy

Saulius “Saul” Anuzis
American Association of
Senior Citizens

Tom Schatz
Citizens Against Government
Waste

Matthew Kandrach
CASE for Consumers

Jane Orient
Association of American
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Frontiers of Freedom

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Grover Norquist
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Karen Kerrigan
Small Business and
Entrepreneurship Council

Tomas Philipson
Former Acting Chair of
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Joel White
Council for Affordable
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Less Government

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