

Ensuring Pathways to Innovative Cures (EPIC) Act

On Feb 25, 2025, Congressman Greg Murphy (NC-03), Don Davie (NC-01) and Richard Hudson (NC-09) introduced the Ensuring Pathways to Innovative Cures (EPIC) Act ([H.R. 1492](#)). The bill seeks to increase the time that small molecule drugs are eligible for selection to the “Medicare Drug Price Negotiation” program from 7 years to 11 years to align with the biologic timeframe.

Position

PCMA opposes legislation that provides brand drug companies with increased profits at the expense of seniors and taxpayers.

Key Provisions

- Increases the time that a small molecule drug would need to be on the market; from 7 years to 11 years; before being eligible for selection for Medicare price negotiations.

What We Want You to Know

- This bill attempts to address what pharma calls the “pill penalty” and incentivize investment in the development of small molecule drugs.
- The FDA should expedite competition in the drug market by shortening the market exclusivity period for biologics from 12 to 7 years, aligning the eligibility period with small molecule drugs.
- Delaying negotiation for small molecule drugs will not lower drugs costs.
- The bill does not account for the lower cost of R&D for small molecule drugs compared to the higher cost of R&D for biologics.