WHAT THEY'RE SAYING:
Leading Health Care Groups Applaud Introduction of Cures 2.0

Friends of Cancer Research:

"I'd like to thank Representatives DeGette and Upton for their continued leadership and dedication to improve the lives of patients," **said Dr. Ellen Sigal, Chair and Founder, Friends of Cancer Research.** "As science continues to progress, public policy needs to keep pace to support the development and delivery of safe and effective new therapies. The Cures 2.0 bill can be a game changer for reaching that goal."

American Medical Association:

"The American Medical Association commends Reps. Diana DeGette (D-CO) and Fred Upton (R-MI) for introducing the Cures 2.0 Act and looks forward to working with Congress to ensure passage of this critical bipartisan legislation. The bill includes a host of provisions that would improve and modernize health care access, specifically by permanently expanding Medicare coverage of telehealth services and by authorizing the necessary funding to establish the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H). This bill would build on the success of the original CURES legislation with more innovation and an understanding of what our patients need to remain healthy," **said American Medical Association President Gerald E. Harmon, M.D.**

Medical Device Manufacturers Association:

"MDMA applauds the ongoing leadership by Congresswoman DeGette and Congressman Upton for introducing the 'Cures 2.0' legislation," **said Mark Leahey, President and CEO of the Medical Device Manufacturers Association.** "The nation and the world continue to benefit from the powerful impact that the '21st Century Cures Act' had on improving patient access to the cures and therapies of tomorrow, and this follow-up legislation will build upon these successes. Specifically, the legislation includes provisions that would directly improve how Medicare covers new breakthrough medical technologies, while making them more accessible to the patients who need them.

"MDMA will continue to work with Congresswoman DeGette, Congressman Upton and the broad bipartisan coalition in Congress who recognize how critical it is to improve our nation's regulatory and reimbursement frameworks on behalf of patients and providers."

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, Inc.

"ACS CAN is excited about provisions within the recently released CURES 2.0 legislation that represent a great step forward for cancer patients, survivors and their families. The inclusion of $6.5 billion to create the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H) offers a tremendous opportunity to not only build on past research investments—like those provided under the first CURES bill—but to greatly accelerate progress in developing new preventive, diagnostic and curative treatments, especially for rare and hard to treat cancers. Additionally, provisions to encourage greater diversity in clinical trials are critical to improving health equity for all cancer patients. We thank Representatives DeGette and Upton for their leadership and look forward to working with lawmakers on this legislation." - **Lisa A. Lacasse, President ACS CAN**

UsAgainstAlzheimer's:

"This bill builds on the success of the original 21st Century Cures Act and stands to drive even more innovations that benefit patients, including the creation of the Advanced Research Projects Agency for Health (ARPA-H). ARPA-H will be key to accelerating innovations in health and medicine to diagnose, prevent, and treat diseases like Alzheimer's, cancer, and other serious, life-threatening conditions," **said George Vradenburg, chairman and co-founder of UsAgainstAlzheimers.** "I applaud Representatives DeGette and Upton for recognizing the tremendous value and hope ARPA-H offers and for making it a key element of this bill."

Society of Thoracic Surgeons:

John H. Calhoon, MD, STS First Vice President: "Linking claims data to clinician-led clinical data registries creates a powerful tool for quality improvement. It allows us to use real world evidence to see the full picture of health care delivery, not just an episode of care. Analyzing health care delivery longitudinally will help us make sure that future patients get the best care at the right time."

FasterCures and Center for Public Health, Milken Institute:

"We applaud Representatives Diana DeGette and Fred Upton's introduction today of 21st Century Cures 2.0, landmark legislation which will bring forward new solutions to some of the most pressing challenges facing biomedical innovation. This bill addresses the need for greater diversity in clinical trials, facilitates the development of cell and gene therapies, and establishes a new approach to addressing antimicrobial resistance, all critical issues to patient communities. The legislation also calls for the creation of ARPA-H, an incubator for cutting-edge biomedical research within the National Institutes of Health, which will accelerate the discovery of next-generation treatments and cures. We look forward to working with Congress as this legislation makes its way through the committee process."

American Brain Coalition

"The American Brain Coalition is grateful to Congresswoman DeGette and Congressman Upton for prioritizing patients in Cures 2.0. The bill includes important provisions that will help address the unmet needs of the brain community and we look forward to achieving our shared goal of increasing access to safe and effective treatments for brain disease."

Cancer Support Community:

"Care that is truly patient centered goes beyond the physical symptoms of a disease and treatment side effects and also considers the social and emotional concerns and needs of cancer patients, survivors, and their loved ones. We applaud the inclusion of the patient experience data provision in Cures 2.0 and commend Representatives DeGette and Upton for their steadfast commitment to incorporating the patient experience throughout the research and care continuum. This legislation is a critical step forward in ensuring that patients and caregivers' experiences assume their rightful, intended, and integral role in the drug development process." **said Dr. Elizabeth Franklin, President of the Cancer Support Community.**

Partnership to Fight Infectious Disease:

Candace DeMatteis, PFID Vice President, Policy and Advocacy: "The past two years have demonstrated the urgent need for leadership and action to anticipate and prepare for the next major domestic public health emergency. We are encouraged to see Congress continue to explore what pandemic preparedness policies should entail, including the prioritization of policies like the Pasteur Act, which are aimed at combating antimicrobial resistance (AMR). Indeed, AMR is a mounting public health threat that we can anticipate, and that we must act now to address. To this end, we applaud the work of Representatives Diana DeGette (D-CO) and Fred Upton (R-MI), and look forward to continuing to work with them and others in Congress on these most pressing issues."

AdvaMed

Scott Whitaker, President and CEO of AdvaMed: "This bipartisan legislation builds on the 2015 Cures law, which was truly transformational for patients and medical innovation. We thank Reps. DeGette and Upton for their continued leadership with the introduction of Cures 2.0. We are especially pleased that this legislation includes Reps. DelBene and Walorski's proposal to ensure Medicare patients are given immediate access to lifesaving 'breakthrough' medical technologies. This is a proven and powerful way to spur greater medical innovation and help our Medicare patients live longer, healthier, and happier lives. We urge Congress to pass this important bipartisan legislation to support American medical innovation and the patients we serve."

Research!America

Mary Woolley, Research!America CEO and President: "Research!America applauds Reps. Diana DeGette (D-CO) and Fred Upton (R-MI) for their extraordinary leadership, commitment, and vision to accelerate medical and public health progress, demonstrated once again by today's introduction of the Cures 2.0 Act.

"Medical progress – or the lack thereof – bears on the quality and length of life for every American and all peoples across the globe. From providing $25 billion to bolster our nation's COVID-19-weakened R&D capacity, to advancing ARPA-H, the legislation would dramatically strengthen our nation's R&D architecture.

"Further, the Cures 2.0 Act would advance such crucial objectives as addressing long-COVID, bolstering pandemic preparedness, fostering clinical trial diversity, empowering early diagnosis of rare diseases, incentivizing the development of urgently needed antibiotics, and laying the foundation for joint efforts with the Administration to foster accelerated access to breakthrough medical technologies.

"We thank Reps. DeGette and Upton and their dedicated staff members for leveraging so many innovative, bipartisan proposals to create a launch-pad for urgently needed medical and public health progress."

Act for NIH

Richard Turman, President, Act for NIH: "NIH's focus on 'curiosity-driven' research has served our Nation incredibly well, but the prospect of adding a 'use-driven' component in the form of ARPA-H to its arsenal of tools to fight disease and develop new cures is exhilarating. The ARPA-H authorization contained in the new CURES 2.0 legislation fits this need beautifully. ACT for NIH congratulates Representatives DeGette and Upton and their teams for skillfully weaving together a new component of NIH that promises to speed advances toward needed diagnostics, cures and treatments. Their ARPA-H serves as a helpful complement to NIH's continued exploration of the forefront of human knowledge – all for the benefit of improving human health. Let's get ARPA-H authorized and funded – there are too many patients to be patient!"

EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases

"We are grateful to Reps. Upton and DeGette for their continued and unwavering commitment to the rare disease community. Cures 2.0 reflects the urgency and opportunity of the rare disease community to build on the momentum and successes of the 21st Century Cures Act. The policies in Cures 2.0 will continue to improve lives and outcomes by shortening the diagnostic odyssey, expanding scientific and data innovation, enhancing regulatory infrastructure, ensuring that patient experience informs decision making, and creating pathways to equitable access to novel treatments" **– Julia Jenkins, Executive Director, EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases**

Rare Disease Company Coalition

"We applaud the continued leadership by Congresswoman DeGette and Congressman Upton to build on the success of the 21st Century Cures Act, and advance legislation that can better deliver modern treatments and cures to the countless Americans and rare disease patients that await options. As a diverse coalition representing life science companies dedicated to developing and delivering treatments for rare diseases, we look forward to continuing to work with Congressional stakeholders to provide feedback on the unique challenges and opportunities to unleash the promise of our R&D efforts aimed at tackling some of the most complex and devastating rare diseases," **said Betsy Ricketts, Chair of the Rare Disease Company Coalition.**

Alliance for Regenerative Medicine

"As the global voice of the cell and gene therapy sector, the Alliance for Regenerative Medicine (ARM) commends Reps. DeGette and Upton for the release of 'Cures 2.0' legislation that will expedite the development of transformative medicines that address the root causes of disease. The bill will benefit patients by increasing the use of real-world evidence, incorporating patient experience data into regulatory reviews, and establishing guidance for CMC standards in expedited pathways. Together, these and other provisions of the bill will help our regulatory system keep pace with the groundbreaking advances of 21st Century science.

"The 21st Century Cures Act of 2016, which established the Regenerative Medicine Advanced Therapy (RMAT) expedited pathway, has already delivered for patients in need. Three of the four regenerative medicines approved by the FDA this year received the RMAT designation, the first-ever approvals under the pathway. ARM is proud to again partner with Reps. DeGette and Upton on the next iteration of 'Cures' legislation to deliver on the promise of cell and gene therapy for an even greater number of patients."