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June 21, 2011

The Honorable Phil Gingrey  
U.S. House of Representatives  
442 Canon House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20215

Dear Representative Gingrey:

The Indiana Health Industry Forum (IHIF) is pleased to support H.R. 1282 – the GAIN Act for Generating Antibiotic Incentives Now. The rise in drug-resistant and hospital acquired infections poses a serious public health threat. We support this bi-partisan legislation that provides meaningful incentives for the collaborative development of new antibiotics.

The Indiana Health Industry Forum is a not-for-profit organization representing the corporate health science community in the state of Indiana. IHIF actively supports health science legislation that encourages investment in innovation or expands our members' ability to innovate. HR 1282 provides new incentives for the development of "qualified infectious disease products," including:

- Extending the Hatch-Waxman provisions related to data exclusivity by 5 years while maintaining the current paradigm for an abbreviated NDA with paragraph IV certification.
- Providing six months of additional exclusivity for products with companion diagnostic tests;
- Providing priority review by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA);
- Making products eligible for fast-track designation by the FDA;
- Requiring a review and possible revising of FDA guidelines regarding clinical trials and other requirements for approval of antibiotic drugs.

We believe this legislation will help researchers and companies in Indiana and across the country to explore much needed treatments and therapies in this area and ultimately help to lower costs associated with the treatment of infection.

We applaud your leadership and the efforts of Representatives Green, Whitfield, DeGette, Rogers, Eshoo, and Shimkus in addressing this issue and putting forth this legislation.

Most sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kristin Jones", written in a cursive style.

Kristin Jones  
President and CEO  
Indiana Health Industry Forum