May 19, 2022

We, the undersigned Maine patient advocates, are joining forces to call on Congress to take swift action to reauthorize the Prescription Drug Use Fee Act (PDUFA).

PDUFA is critical to strengthening the Food and Drug Administration's ability to review and approve new medicines for patients. Since Congress passed the first PDUFA legislation in 1992, the average approval time for a new medicine fell from two or more years to just 10 months. In fact, over the last five years, about 75% of novel drugs were approved in the U.S, ahead of any other country, thanks, in part, to the improvements imposed by PDUFA.

By providing a modern and predictable regulatory framework, the PDUFA program has been shown to facilitate the development of important medical innovations. All Maine patients—including those living with rare diseases, cancers, neurologic disorders, and chronic conditions, are hoping that new treatments and possible cures will be discovered soon.

We urge Congress to reauthorize PDUFA cleanly and in a timely manner and help reinforce ongoing efforts to strengthen the drug review process and advance the development of potentially life-saving medical breakthroughs.

Sincerely,

The ALS Association, New England Territory
Frannie Peabody Center
Free ME from Lung Cancer
Maine Health Equity Alliance
Purple Iris Foundation
Rare New England