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October 6, 2022

The Honorable Mariannette Miller-Meeks
U.S. House of Representatives
1716 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nanette Barragán
U.S. House of Representatives
246 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Greg Murphy
U.S. House of Representatives
313 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ann Kuster
U.S. House of Representatives
320 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Miller-Meeks, Murphy, Barragán and Kuster,

On behalf of Vizient, Inc., and the health care provider members we serve, I am pleased to offer our endorsement for H.R.8877, the Biologics Competition Act of 2022.

Vizient, Inc. is the nation's largest health care performance improvement company. We provide solutions and services that improve the delivery of high-value care by aligning cost, quality and market performance for more than half of the nation's health care providers. Vizient provides expertise, analytics, advisory services, and a contract portfolio representing more than $130 billion in annual member purchasing volume, to improve patient outcomes and lower costs.

The approval of interchangeable biological products holds significant potential to promote competition and reduce costs for patients. However, despite the growing number of biosimilar products entering the market and seeking to be designated as interchangeable, confusion persists among clinicians and payers as to the substitution of interchangeable biosimilars with originator biologics. Your important bipartisan legislation offers concrete solutions to minimize obstacles to the substitution of interchangeable biologics. The bill requires a study to determine whether substitution of interchangeable biological products is being impeded by the difference between the system used to determine biologic product interchangeability and the separate system used to assign therapeutic equivalence for drugs. This study would provide Congress with insight into the current barriers to interchangeable substitution and identify potential policy solutions.

HHS would then be directed to update the "purple book" to implement changes the Secretary deems necessary to harmonize the approach for communicating the substitutability of interchangeable biological products with the approach for communicating therapeutic equivalence ratings assigned to drugs. This new process would allow for increased adoption of interchangeable biologics, and increase pharmaceutical competition to lower drug prices for patients and providers.

We are pleased to offer our support for your legislation and appreciate your ongoing commitment to bolstering competition and reducing costs for patients. Thank you for your leadership on this important legislation. Please contact me at shoshana.krilow@vizientinc.com or (202) 354-2607 if you have any questions or if there is any way we can be of assistance in getting this important legislation signed into law.

Sincerely,

Shoshana Krilow
Senior Vice President, Public Policy & Government Relations