

July 21, 2023

The Honorable Michael Lee
U.S. Senate
363 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Ben Ray Luján
U.S. Senate
498 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Lee and Luján,

On behalf of Vizient, Inc., I am pleased to offer our endorsement of the *Biosimilar Red Tape Elimination Act*. This important legislation would increase access to low cost biosimilars by eliminating duplicative switching studies as a prerequisite for a drug to be deemed interchangeable.

Vizient is the nation's largest healthcare performance improvement company. Vizient provides solutions and services that improve the delivery of high-value care by aligning cost, quality, and market performance for more than 60% of the nation's acute care providers, which includes 97% of the nation's academic medical centers and more than 25% of ambulatory providers. Vizient provides expertise, analytics, and advisory services, as well as a contract portfolio that represents more than \$130 billion in annual purchasing volume, to improve patient outcomes and lower costs. Headquartered in Irving, Texas, Vizient has offices across the United States.

The *Biosimilar Red Tape Elimination Act* would take necessary steps to reduce barriers to patients' access to biosimilar drugs. The current, two-tiered approval system has long confused physicians, patients, and other stakeholders on the safety and efficacy of biosimilar drugs. This legislation would deem FDA approved biosimilars as interchangeable, thus eliminating the need for separate switching studies. Given that FDA approval of a biosimilar already requires that there be "no clinically meaningful difference" with the biological product, switching studies are unnecessary and duplicative. This legislation will also lead to increased competition, lowering the cost of these life-saving drugs for patients.

Vizient recognizes the necessity for biologically complex drugs to be available in our healthcare system at fair prices. We are pleased to support this important legislation that will remove unnecessary barriers to competition and aid in providing life-saving treatments to patients across the country.

Thank you for your ongoing leadership on this issue. Please do not hesitate to contact me at shoshana.krilow@vizientinc.com or 202-354-2607 if you have any questions about Vizient or if there is any way we can be of assistance in advancing your important legislation.

Sincerely,



Shoshana Krilow
Senior Vice President, Public Policy & Government Relations