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November 1, 2021

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-232, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer  
Majority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-107, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone  
Chair, Energy and Commerce Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Chair, Ways and Means Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
S-221, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
S-230, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Cathy McMorris Rodgers  
Ranking Member, Energy and Commerce  
Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin Brady  
Ranking Member, Ways and Means  
Committee  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1102 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Chair, Senate Committee on Finance  
U.S. Senate  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo  
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on  
Finance  
U.S. Senate  
219 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Chair, Senate Committee on Health,  
Education, Labor, and Pensions  
U.S. Senate  
428 Senate Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Burr,  
Ranking Member, Senate Committee on  
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
U.S. Senate  
428 Senate Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Schumer, Speaker Pelosi, Majority Leader Hoyer, Minority Leader McConnell, Chairs Wyden, Murray, Neal, and Pallone, and Ranking Members Crapo, Burr, Brady and Rodgers :

On behalf of U.S. PIRG, its state affiliate organizations and our many members, we urge you to include important provisions to help achieve drug cost savings for all Americans. [Two-thirds of American adults](#) take prescription drugs, and many are burdened by the high prices of their essential medications. On average, Americans pay [two to three times](#) as much as people in other countries for the same medicines.

As you seek to find savings to pay for the many important programs in Build Back Better, you have an opportunity to help millions of Americans with one of their most troubling concern: how to pay for their monthly prescriptions. In 2019, Medicare Part D covered more than 3,500 prescription drug products at a cost of approximately [\\$183 billion dollars](#) (not accounting for rebates which are not publicly available). Federal legislators sought both to find savings from drug spending in the budget and also to relieve the burden of the high cost of drugs for many Americans.

We urge you to allow the federal government to negotiate fair and reasonable drug prices for the 62 million Americans on Medicare and extend those savings to the commercial market so the additional 179 million younger people with private insurance will also have the benefit of those lower negotiated prices. It is also important to establish a cap on drug price hikes which have been occurring multiple times in one year with no additional therapeutic benefits. Setting a cap on price hikes will protect Americans from egregious pricing and help save [billions](#) of dollars for both patients and their employer health plans.

Thank you for helping Americans by finding cost savings in prescription drug costs.

Sincerely,

Faye Park  
President, U.S. PIRG

Patricia Kelmar  
Health Care Campaigns Director, U.S. PIRG

Katie Murtha  
Vice President, Federal Government Affairs, U.S. PIRG and Environment America

**U.S. PIRG** is a federation of independent, state-based, citizen-funded Public Interest Research Groups in 25 states, whose role is to find common ground around the commonsense solutions that will make our future healthier, safer and more secure. U.S. PIRG is part of The Public Interest Network, which operates and supports organizations committed to a shared vision of a better world and a strategic approach to social change. Learn more at [uspig.org](http://uspig.org).

PIRG's state offices include: [Arizona PIRG](#), [CALPIRG](#), [CoPIRG](#), [ConnPIRG](#), [Florida PIRG](#), [Georgia PIRG](#), [Iowa PIRG](#), [Illinois PIRG](#), [MASSPIRG](#), [Maryland PIRG](#), [PIRGIM](#), [MoPIRG](#), [MontPIRG](#), [NCPIRG](#), [NHPIRG](#), [NJPIRG](#), [NMPIRG](#), [Ohio PIRG](#), [OSPIRG](#), [PennPIRG](#), [RIPiRG](#), [TexPIRG](#), [WashPIRG](#), [WISPIRG](#).