

March 26, 2020

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

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
House Minority Leader  
H-204, The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader McCarthy:

The National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) is writing to urge swift passage of the *Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act*, which passed with unanimous bipartisan support in the U.S. Senate yesterday.

NCPA represents the nation's 21,000 community pharmacies and long-term care pharmacists, including independent and small regional chains which are locally and regionally owned, located in all U.S. states and territories. Our members are an essential part of the nation's critical infrastructure; as America's most accessible health care providers, our members have been on the front lines of response to the COVID-19 pandemic since day one, providing essential health care services to millions of patients every day. Our members are doing everything possible to provide high quality patient care even as the pandemic exerts enormous strain on their ability to keep their doors open. The *CARES Act* contains small business protections that are desperately needed by our members to help ease the economic strain caused by COVID-19 by providing the needed cash flow and liquidity necessary to remain viable and keep their doors open. Any delay in passage of the *CARES Act* compromises our members' ability to provide continued access to care for millions of Americans, including some of our most vulnerable and especially in our nation's rural communities, where small business independent community pharmacies are often the sole health care provider.

Once again, NCPA appreciates congressional efforts related to COVID-19 relief and urges swift passage in the House of the *CARES Act*. Small business community pharmacies are open and stand ready to fully support our Nation's COVID-19 response.

Sincerely,



Karry K. La Violette  
Senior Vice President of Government Affairs & Director of the Advocacy Center  
National Community Pharmacists Association