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# United States Senate

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May 11, 2012

The President  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We appreciate your work to advance exports and global opportunities for U.S. workers and companies in the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) negotiations.

These negotiations must include high standards for intellectual property (IP) protection across all of our domestic industries. As you and your Administration work to make progress on the TPP agreement at the negotiating round in Dallas, it is vitally important that U.S. negotiators propose and seek to secure robust intellectual property rights for biologics, including 12 years of data protection as found in U.S. law.

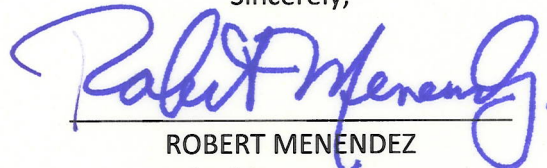
Protection of IP globally will allow U.S. workers and companies to compete on a level playing field and ensure that the U.S. biopharmaceutical industry continues to lead the world in innovating and discovering the therapies of the future. In New Jersey alone, the bioscience industry supports approximately 195,444 jobs.

Currently, America's biopharmaceutical research companies have 901 biotechnology medicines and vaccines in development, many of which are biologics targeting more than 100 debilitating and life-threatening diseases, including 352 for cancer and related conditions, 188 for infectious diseases, 69 for autoimmune diseases, and 59 for cardiovascular diseases.

In 2010, 1,670 clinical trials were underway in New Jersey, including biologics. On average, it costs \$1.2 billion and takes over a decade to develop one new medicine. Biologics developed here in New Jersey and across the United States have the potential to treat and cure diseases for the world's patients.

Maintaining biologics data protection at 12 years in the United States and promoting its implementation abroad is an important foundation for a vibrant U.S. biopharmaceutical industry and workforce. Securing strong IP protections across all disciplines in the TPP will help New Jersey maintain and continue to grow a healthy bioscience industry with high-quality jobs.

Sincerely,



ROBERT MENENDEZ  
United States Senator