



Improving access.  
Transforming health.

September 23, 2025

The Honorable Rick Allen  
462 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lucy McBath  
2246 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Allen and McBath,

On behalf of the Patient Access Network (PAN) Foundation and the patients and families we assist, I write in support of H.R. 5509, the *Safe Step Act*. PAN commends your leadership in reintroducing this important legislation to support patient access to provider prescribed medications.

As a leading charitable foundation and healthcare advocacy organization, the PAN Foundation is dedicated to accelerating access to treatment for those who need it most and empowering patients on their healthcare journeys. We provide critical financial assistance for treatment costs, advocate for policy solutions that expand access to care, and deliver education on complex topics—all driven by our belief that everyone deserves access to affordable, equitable healthcare.

We thank you for the timely reintroduction of this important legislation that would ensure that employer plans, and the pharmacy benefit managers that support them, offer a timely step therapy exceptions process for patients and their providers. A 2021 study found that 55.6% of insurers instituted step therapy protocols that were more stringent than established clinical guidelines. Moreover, insurers were found to employ step therapy at higher rates for debilitating conditions like multiple sclerosis, hepatitis C, Crohn's disease, and arthritis.

While step therapy can be an important tool in curbing excessive drug costs, it often harms patients by delaying access to the most effective treatment, causing severe side effects, and leading to irreversible disease progression. Step therapy interferes with the provider-patient relationship and inhibits access to timely, quality care.

The PAN Foundation appreciates your steadfast leadership to ensure patients can access the medications they need in a timely manner. We look forward to working with you to educate on the importance of passing the *Safe Step Act*. If you would like further information or have questions, please contact Amy Niles, Chief Mission Officer at [aniles@panfoundation.org](mailto:aniles@panfoundation.org).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin L. Hagan".

Kevin L. Hagan  
President and Chief Executive Officer



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September 23, 2025

The Honorable Lisa Murkowski  
522 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Maggie Hassan  
324 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Murkowski and Hassan,

On behalf of the Patient Access Network (PAN) Foundation and the patients and families we assist, I write in support of S.2903, the *Safe Step Act*. PAN commends your leadership in reintroducing this important legislation to support patient access to provider prescribed medications.

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