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AIR340B Coalition Commends Introduction of 340B HELP ACT
The Senate Bill Aims to Increase 340B Oversight

WASHINGTON, D.C. (January 17, 2018) -- Today, the Alliance for Integrity and Reform of 340B (AIR340B) Coalition released the following statement in response to the Senate's introduction of the HELP ACT, "Helping Ensure Low-income Patients have Access to Care and Treatment":

"The AIR340B Coalition applauds efforts in the Senate HELP ACT, introduced by Senator Bill Cassidy (R-LA), to improve oversight and accountability in the 340B Drug Discount Program. This legislation would expand the Health Resources and Services Administration's ability to collect data on participating providers and ensure their compliance with the program. The bill will improve the program's integrity so that 340B can continue to benefit vulnerable patients for years to come.

"This legislation would pause the rapid expansion of 340B by implementing a temporary freeze on the addition of new DSH hospitals participating in the program. This action will prevent misuse of the program by additional hospitals seeking to take advantage of current lax standards that allow hospitals to generate profits instead of giving patients the care they need. The legislation also guarantees that truly vulnerable rural hospitals and other grantees, like Ryan White Clinics and Federally Qualified Health Centers, can continue to enroll in the program and use 340B discounts to further their missions, just as they do today.

"Examination of 340B is long overdue. We encourage all legislators to review this bill and appreciate congressional efforts to bring attention to reclaiming this invaluable program."

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The Alliance for Integrity and Reform of 340B (AIR 340B) is a coalition of patient advocacy groups, clinical care providers, and biopharmaceutical innovators dedicated to reforming and strengthening the 340B program to ensure it directly supports access to outpatient prescription medicines for uninsured indigent patients. www.340Breform.org