May 29, 2012

The Honorable John Boehner  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Office of the Speaker of the House  
H-232 U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Office of the House Minority Leader  
H-204 U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner and Leader Pelosi:

The Consumer Healthcare Products Association (CHPA) is the 131-year-old trade association representing U.S. manufacturers and distributors of over-the-counter (OTC) medicines and dietary supplements. On behalf of the industry, I write to express support for timely passage of the reauthorization of the Prescription Drug User Fee Act (PDUFA) pending in the House of Representatives.

Now in its fifth iteration, PDUFA encourages innovation in the pharmaceutical industry by providing review goals for new drug applications, both prescription and OTC, and helps advance public health and increase patient safety through dedicated resources for drug review, safety monitoring, and process improvements. Efficient, consistent, and appropriate review and approval of medicines by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is of paramount importance in treating diseases and mitigating their symptoms.

OTC medicines play a vital role in the U.S. healthcare system, many of which were once prescription drugs. The user fee program employed by FDA is essential to keeping Americans healthy and vibrant throughout their lives.

We thank you and your colleagues for your leadership on this issue, and applaud the singular focus placed by the Congress on ensuring swift, timely passage in both chambers. We look forward to working with you to see this legislation through to the finish line.

Sincerely,

Scott M. Melville, President and CEO  
Consumer Healthcare Products Association

cc: The Honorable Eric Cantor, House Majority Leader  
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, House Majority Whip  
The Honorable Steny Hoyer, House Minority Whip  
The Honorable James Clyburn, House Assistant Minority Leader  
The Honorable Fred Upton, Chairman, House Energy & Commerce Committee  
The Honorable Henry Waxman, Ranking Member, House Energy & Commerce Committee