US Oncology®

Advancing Cancer Care in America

Safeguarding America's Pharmaceuticals Act: Protecting Americans from Counterfeit Drugs – Ensuring Safe Delivery of Critical Cancer Care Medications

Quick facts about the Representatives Matheson / Buyer bill:

- US Oncology supports this effort to protect the integrity of the drug distribution chain and ensure the safe delivery of cancer care medication.
- US Oncology currently supports a drug supply chain for more than 800,000 patients that protects the cancer patients we treat from drug counterfeit and tampering.
- This bill would require the use of the most effective technologies in drug shipping and distribution to help stop counterfeiting and diversion of prescription medicines.
- Technologies like Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) utilized by US Oncology offer the most promise in further enhancing patient safety and supply chain security.
- In recent years, California and Florida among other states have worked to impose new requirements for manufacturers, distributors, wholesalers and pharmacies, but these requirements are inconsistent across states.
    - The resulting patchwork of state-level requirements creates confusion and hurts small pharmacies.
    - This bill would ensure that pharmaceutical drugs delivered to doctors and patients all over the country are regulated with a uniform system.
- The healthcare supply chain must move to a national electronic system that enables tracking of each prescription drug package at the item level, beginning with the manufacturer and ending with the doctor or pharmacist.

Members: Please support the pending Matheson / Buyer legislation to help ensure safe, efficient delivery of medications for America's cancer patients.