



## PRESS RELEASE

### CONTACT:

**Dagmar Anderson/IACP VP Communications**

713/505-6871 Cell; dagmar@iacprx.org

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

#### **IACP Applauds the Leadership of Congressmen Griffith and Cuellar in Introducing Bill HR 2871**

The “Preserving Patient Access to Compounded Medications Act of 2017” *is a bipartisan effort to preserve patient access to vital compounded medications.*

WASHINGTON – June 13, 2017 - The International Academy of Compounding Pharmacists (IACP) strongly supports new legislation, introduced by **U.S. Congressmen Morgan Griffith (VA) and Henry Cuellar (TX), H.R. 2871** – *The Preserving Patient Access to Compounded Medications Act of 2017*, formally introduced on June 12, 2017. More than 300 compounding pharmacists traveled to Washington, D.C. on behalf of their patients and physicians to meet with their respective congressional representatives to discuss the Bill’s content, and to urge them to co-sponsor H.R. 2871.

**IACP President Baylor Rice, RPh, FIACP**, says, “On behalf of the **International Academy of Compounding Pharmacists** and the patients we serve, thank you, **Congressman Griffith and Congressman Cuellar**, for your leadership in introducing the bipartisan legislation, HR 2871 - *The Preserving Patient Access to Compounded Medications Act.*

This important bill will help protect access to medications physicians rely upon for their patients. It will help clarify the Drug Quality & Security Act (DQSA) in a way that will better align the statute with congressional intent and better balance public safety and patient access. We applaud your dedication on behalf of patients, physicians, pharmacists, and other healthcare providers who are united in a mission to preserve patient safety and access to needed compounded medications pursuant to state and federal laws and regulations.”

IACP consistently has said that maintaining access to potentially life-saving compounded medications is not only vital for patients; but, is consistent with the legislative intent of the DQSA. While reinforcing Section 503A of the Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FDCA) through the passage of the DQSA, Congress came together in a bipartisan and bicameral fashion to make

clear that pharmacists' ability to provide compounded medications for a physician's administration to or treatment of a patient within their practice should be left to the States. IACP, working with the DQSA Coalition, has worked with the FDA and Congress on improving the agency's compounding policies in a way that better balances public safety with patient access to critical medications. Unfortunately, despite these efforts, FDA continues to misinterpret the DQSA and assert regulatory authority over the practice of pharmacy and medicine in a way Congress never intended. Congress has, in the last two appropriations bills (FY16 and FY17), included report language directing the FDA to alter their policies on compounding to align with congressional intent and the language of the statute. FDA has, to date, ignored those congressional directives and continues to substitute their desired regulatory authority over compounding.

**As such, it's vital that Congress support HR 2871 in order to preserve patient access to compounded medications by directing FDA to act within Congressional intent.**

#### **About IACP**

The International Academy of Compounding Pharmacists (IACP) is an association representing more than 4,000 pharmacists, technicians, students, and members of the compounding community who focus upon the specialty practice of pharmacy compounding. Compounding pharmacists work directly with prescribers including physicians, nurse practitioners and veterinarians to create customized medication solutions for patients and animals whose healthcare needs cannot be met by manufactured medications. IACP's mission of protecting, promoting and advancing personalized medication solutions is critical for patient healthcare. Visit [www.iacprx.org](http://www.iacprx.org) to learn more and to find a compounding pharmacist near you.

###