SENATE RESOLUTION No. 20

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 26, 1996

By Senators SINAGRA and MATHEUSSEN

A SENATE RESOLUTION memorializing the Congress of the United States to enact legislation which will facilitate the development and approval of new drugs, biological products and medical devices.

WHEREAS, Improving patient access to quality health care is a paramount national goal; and

WHEREAS, The key to improved health care, especially for persons with serious unmet medical needs, is the rapid approval of safe and effective new drugs, biological products and medical devices by the United States Food and Drug Administration; and

WHEREAS, Minimizing the delay between discovery and eventual approval of a new drug, biological product or medical device derived from research conducted by innovative pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies could improve the lives of millions of Americans; and

WHEREAS, Current limitations on the dissemination of information about pharmaceutical products reduce the availability of information to physicians, other health care professionals and patients, and unfairly limit the right of free speech guaranteed by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution; and

WHEREAS, The current rules and practices governing the review of new drugs, biological products, and medical devices by the United States Food and Drug Administration can delay approvals and are unnecessarily expensive; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED *by the Senate of the State of New Jersey:*

1. The Congress of the United States is respectfully memorialized to address the issue of delays in approvals and increased costs associated with the current process of reviewing new drugs, biological products and medical devices by the United States Food and Drug Administration, by enacting comprehensive legislation to facilitate the rapid review and approval of innovative new drugs, biological products and medical devices, without compromising patient safety or product effectiveness.

2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the President of the Senate and attested by the Secretary of the Senate, shall be transmitted to the presiding officers of the United States Senate and House of Representatives and the members of the New Jersey Congressional delegation.

STATEMENT

This Senate resolution memorializes the Congress of the United States to address the issue of delays in approvals and increased costs associated with the current process of reviewing new drugs, biological products and medical devices by the United States Food and Drug Administration, by enacting comprehensive legislation to facilitate the rapid review and approval of innovative new drugs, biological products, and medical devices, without compromising patient safety or product effectiveness.

Memorializes Congress to enact legislation to facilitate approval of new drugs and biological products.