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**Alliance for Biosecurity Applauds New Legislation to
Strengthen Preparedness for Public Health Emergencies**

*Creating Incentives for Medical Countermeasures Development Improves Preparedness
against Biological Threats*

The Alliance for Biosecurity strongly supports the Strengthening Public Health Emergency Response Act of 2015, introduced by Congresswomen Susan Brooks (R-IN) and Anna Eshoo (D-CA). This bill supports preparedness for future public health emergencies, such as Ebola, by creating new incentives for developing necessary medicines and vaccines and streamlining the contracting process for medical countermeasures.

"Over the last decade, the level of cooperation between government entities and private sector partners has improved and our level of preparedness has increased. But we must move beyond the status quo to meet the new challenges we face," said Paul Chaplin, President & CEO of Bavarian Nordic and Alliance for Biosecurity Co-Chair. "The Alliance for Biosecurity believes the legislation introduced by Congresswomen Susan Brooks and Anna Eshoo will help the country move beyond the current status with new medical countermeasures research incentives, increased transparency, and predictable and flexible contracting mechanisms and we commend the Congresswomen for introducing the Strengthening Public Health Emergency Response Act of 2015."

Medical countermeasures are essential to our nation's health and security, so incentives must be in place to attract private investment in product development and the government contracting process must be efficient. This bill provides an important new incentive to companies that successfully develop and license medical countermeasures against identified national security threats. It also speeds up the procurement process to improve the private-public partnerships necessary for countermeasure development. These reforms will contribute to greater public health security and ensure preparedness against biological threats.

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The Alliance for Biosecurity is a coalition of biopharmaceutical companies and laboratory/academic partners that promotes a strong public-private partnership to ensure medical countermeasures are available to protect public health and enhance national health security. The Alliance advocates for public policies and funding to support the rapid development, production, stockpiling, and distribution of critically needed medical countermeasures.

For more information, visit the Alliance for Biosecurity website at www.allianceforbiosecurity.org.

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