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ALLIANCE FOR BIOSECURITY HONORS CONGRESSWOMAN ESHOO WITH INAUGURAL CONGRESSIONAL BIOSECURITY CHAMPION AWARD

The Alliance for Biosecurity is proud to announce Congresswoman Anna Eshoo (D-CA) is a recipient of the group's inaugural Congressional Biosecurity Champion Award. The award acknowledges the efforts of members of Congress who have shown leadership and taken significant action to improve U.S. national health security and preparedness for biological threats, both naturally emerging and manmade.

"Building our nation's preparedness is an essential imperative in a world filled with many challenges and risks, and we appreciate Congresswoman Eshoo's commitment to strengthen preparedness efforts," said Elizabeth Posillico, President and CEO of Elusys Therapeutics, and Co-Chair of the Alliance for Biosecurity. "If we wait until the next crisis to prepare biodefense measures, then it is already too late. That is why we are appreciative of Congresswoman Eshoo's work advocating for improved national health security efforts."

As the [Blue Ribbon Study Panel on Biodefense's recent report](#) reveals, the United States is underprepared for biological threats and does not give these threats the same level of attention as it does other threats. The "National Blueprint for Biodefense" also highlights the important role of drug and vaccine medical countermeasures and calls for robust government funding and new incentives to support public-private partnerships to develop, manufacture, and stockpile them before a threat materializes.

In presenting this award to Congresswoman Eshoo, the Alliance recognizes that she championed legislation that created the Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority and reauthorized the Project BioShield Special Reserve Fund. Additionally, Congresswoman Eshoo co-sponsored H.R. 3299, the Strengthening Public Health Emergency Response Act of 2015.

Congresswoman Eshoo is one of four members to receive the 2015 Congressional Biosecurity Champion Award. The other honorees include Senator Bob Casey (D-PA), Senator Richard Burr (R-NC), and Congresswoman Susan Brooks (R-IN).

In keeping with the innovative nature of the work of the members of the Alliance, the award is a unique one-of-a-kind design produced by a 3D printer.

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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.