

June 23 , 2014

The Honorable Mike Coffman
Rayburn House Office Building
Room 2443
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Coffman:

The Colorado Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons, which represents almost 200 ophthalmologists in Colorado, encourages you to join a letter that urges the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to ensure that critical repackaged drug products and compounded drug products for office use are available to physicians and patients. Representatives Morgan Griffith (R-VA), Gene Green (D-TX) and Diana DeGette (D-CO) are circulating the letter. Ophthalmologists are concerned regarding the FDA's implementation of the Drug Quality and Security Act ("DQSA," P.L. 113-54) and how it will impact physician and patient access to critical compounded drug products.

Compounded drugs are an essential component of ophthalmology practices because numerous drugs that are used to treat patients simply are not manufactured in formulations that can be used in the eye without modification. Unfortunately, ophthalmologists and patients nationwide are currently experiencing issues in accessing essential compounded drug products as a result of FDA's initial implementation activities.

The bipartisan Griffith/Green/DeGette letter aims to ensure that FDA implements the DQSA in the way that it was intended by Congress and does not take action that ultimately limits physician and patient access to critical, sight-saving drugs. We respectfully and strongly urge you to help ensure continued physician and patient access to these critical medications by adding your name to the letter.

To sign on, please contact Adam Harbison (adam.harbison@mail.house.gov) in Rep. Morgan Griffith's office. For more information about the DQSA's impact on ophthalmologists and their patients please contact the American Academy of Ophthalmology's Washington, D.C. office at 202-737-6662.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Geo. Ulrich, MD".

George Ulrich, MD
President

