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Letter of support for the HIV Epidemic Loan-Repayment Program (HELP) Act

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The Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists (SIDP) is excited to support Rep. John Lewis' HIV Epidemic Loan-Repayment Program (HELP) Act with Rep. Barbara Lee and Rep. Frederica Wilson as original co-sponsors. If enacted, this legislation would provide a loan repayment (up to \$250,000 over five years) for healthcare professionals, including clinical pharmacists, who provide HIV treatment for patients seeking care in areas with health professional shortages or at Ryan White-funded clinics. Clinical pharmacists are essential in the care of patients with HIV – they help ensure patients can adhere to their regimens, manage complex drug interactions, conduct adverse effect monitoring, and help evaluate the best possible treatment regimens for each patient. This loan repayment program will help improve the care of HIV patients.

About SIDP:

SIDP is an association of pharmacists and allied healthcare professionals dedicated to promoting the appropriate use of antimicrobial agents. SIDP membership is comprised of 1,500 members in hospital, academic, industry, governmental organizations, and other practice settings across all 50 states and throughout the globe. The mission of SIDP is to advance infectious diseases pharmacy and lead antimicrobial stewardship in order to optimize the care of patients.

Alan Gross, PharmD, BCIDP, BCPS
Chair, Policy and Government Affairs Committee, SIDP