



For Immediate Release

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Dr. Hiral Tipirneni Calls on Rep. Schweikert to fight for lowering price of COVID-19 treating drug, and to ensure an eventual vaccine is made free for all Americans

On the heels of yesterday's [announcement](#) that Gilead set the price of Remdesivir - one of the few drugs that has been effective in treating COVID-19 - at up to \$3,120 per treatment course, Dr. Hiral Tipirneni called on Rep. David Schweikert to do his part to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and work to lower the price of prescription drugs. An [independent study](#) by the Institute for Clinical and Economic Review found that Gilead could recoup its costs for the development and production of Remdesivir by pricing it as low as \$10 per treatment course.

“It’s simple – prescription drug companies should put decency before greed and make lifesaving drugs that effectively treat COVID-19 affordable for Americans, rather than choosing to take advantage of a deadly pandemic to make huge profits. Rep. Schweikert should join me in demanding that Gilead lower the cost of Remdesivir so it can be put to use treating Americans all across the country, rather than only available to those who can afford high prices,” said Dr. Hiral Tipirneni. **“If the drugs and eventual vaccines that treat and inoculate against COVID-19 are priced outrageously high, it will disastrously delay our fight to end this epidemic, costing countless lives and preventing us from reopening our economy safely. We must make treatment options and vaccines free for Americans so we can save lives and get back to work. I encourage Rep. Schweikert to join the fight against big pharma by calling for this drug price to be lowered to a reasonable cost as well as ensuring treatment and an eventual vaccine for COVID-19 are free for every American, rather than voting against legislation to hold prescription drug companies accountable and allow Medicare to negotiate for prescription drugs to lower costs.”**

Last year, Rep. Schweikert voted against [HR 3](#), a bi-partisan effort to lower the cost of prescription drugs and allow Medicare to negotiate with prescription drug companies to pay lower prices. He has been funded throughout his career by [more than \\$50,000](#) from pharmaceutical company PACs.

About Hiral

Dr. Hiral Tipirneni has dedicated her career to improving health care in her community, first as an emergency room physician serving the Phoenix area. After losing her mother and nephew to cancer, Hiral directed her passion and problem-solving skills to evaluating and directing funding for cutting-edge cancer research. She led teams of researchers, clinicians, and patient advocates in the fight to treat and cure breast cancer, prostate cancer, and childhood leukemia. She's a proven problem-solver who's committed to the health and long term well-being of her communities.

Hiral was 3 years old when her family immigrated from India to this country to pursue the American dream. After their medical residencies, she and her husband, Dr. Kishore Tipirneni, chose to build their life in the Valley, where they have lived for over 23 yrs and raised their three children.

Hiral is running in Arizona's 6th Congressional District, which is currently represented by Congressman David Schweikert, who is [under investigation](#) over allegations that he misspent official funds and received illegal campaign contributions. Her campaign has been added to the DCCC's Red to Blue list and endorsed by Emily's List, End Citizens United, League of Conservation Voters, NARAL, Planned Parenthood, 314 Action, ASPIRE PAC, Brady Campaign to end Gun Violence, AZ-02 Congresswoman Ann Kirkpatrick, AZ-01 Congressman Tom O'Halleran, and nine members of the Arizona legislature.

For more information about the campaign, please visit www.hiralforcongress.com.