

I voted Yes on H.R. 5651, the Food and Drug Administration Reform Act.

Our nation has led the medical device and biopharmaceutical industries for many years, bringing good jobs to New York and life-saving devices and drugs to Upstate patients. However, because of a lack of predictability in Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) inconsistent regulation, significant numbers of device and pharmaceutical jobs have gone overseas - meaning that foreign patients have been able to benefit from innovations before Americans.

H.R. 5651 contains FDA policy reforms that ensure that we remain a leader in medical innovation so that more jobs stay in our country. Specifically, the bill would authorize the collection and spending of fees by the FDA for activities to better approve prescription drugs and medical devices, as well as to regulate drugs in the marketplace. It would provide FDA with more authority to improve the safety of the drug supply chain and would establish an early warning notification system to mitigate or prevent drug shortages. It also would create a new approval procedure for breakthrough drug therapies.

I supported this bill because it promotes American leadership in a high-tech industry with jobs averaging \$60,000 per year, and it better enables patients in upstate New York to access desperately needed medical treatments.

The bill was approved by a vote of 387 – 5.