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105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1727

To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to allow for additional deferred effective dates for approval of applications under the new drugs provisions, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 22, 1997

Mr. GREENWOOD (for himself, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. BURR of North Carolina, Mr. UPTON, Mrs. JOHNSON of Connecticut, Mr. KLUG, Mr. FRANKS of New Jersey, Ms. LOFGREN, Ms. PRYCE of Ohio, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. DEGETTE, Mr. BOUCHER, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Mr. HORN, and Ms. SLAUGHTER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce

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A BILL

To amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to allow for additional deferred effective dates for approval of applications under the new drugs provisions, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Better Pharmaceuticals for Children Act''.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

Congress finds that—

(1) children are the future of the Nation and the preservation and improvement of child health is in the national interest;

(2) the preservation and improvement of child health may require the use of pharmaceutical products;

(3) children may metabolize drugs differently from adults and may require smaller doses or different forms of administration of the drugs;

(4) the testing of drugs for safety and pharmacokinetics is necessary to ensure that the drugs are safe and effective for use by children;

(5) it is estimated that 4 out of 5 drugs on the market in the United States have not been approved for use by children;

(6) many other drugs are not manufactured in a form that permits young children to use such drugs and consequently untested and unapproved forms are often employed;

(7) many of these drugs are nonetheless widely used by children or hold promise for use by children, despite the lack of approval, dosage, labeling, or formulation;

(8) this Act is intended to encourage manufacturers to perform such research, to develop information about the safe and appropriate use of such drugs, and to label and formulate such drugs for use by children;

(9) the National Institutes of Health, acting through the Pediatric Pharmacology Research Unit (PPRU) Network, has initiated research on appropriate pediatric indications for drugs that have not been approved for use by children;

(10) the PPRU Network has performed such research with both public funding and private contracts with industry;

(11) the Better Pharmaceuticals for Children Act, if enacted, will provide a range of private contractual opportunities for the PPRU Network to work with industry on research involving drugs that are protected by some form of patent or exclusivity and that are candidates for protection under this Act;

(12) there will, nonetheless, remain a number of drugs that are in widespread use, and that have not been approved for use by children, but that are not protected by some form of patent or exclusivity, and

thus are not candidates for protection under this Act;

(13) if this Act is enacted, the PPRU Network will continue to be well suited to continue to use public funds and such private funds as may be available to conduct research on such drugs for pediatric use; and

(14) if this Act is enacted, the safety and effectiveness of the use of pharmaceuticals by children will be improved and the health of the children of this Nation will benefit.

SEC. 3. PEDIATRIC STUDIES MARKETING EXCLUSIVITY.

Chapter V of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act (21 U.S.C. 351 et seq.) is amended by inserting after section 505 the following new section:

"SEC. 505A. PEDIATRIC STUDIES OF DRUGS.

''(a) MARKET EXCLUSIVITY FOR NEW DRUGS.—If, prior to approval of an application that is submitted under section 505(b)(1) the Secretary determines that information relating to the use of a drug in the pediatric population may produce health benefits in that population, the Secretary makes a written request for pediatric studies (which may include a time frame for completing such studies), and such studies are completed within any such time frame and the reports thereof submitted in accordance

with subsection (d)(2) or completed within any such time frame and the reports thereof are accepted in accordance with subsection (d)(3)—

''(1)(A) the period during which an application may not be submitted under subsections (c)(3)(D)(ii) and (j)(4)(D)(ii) of section 505 shall be five years and six months rather than five years, and the references in subsections (c)(3)(D)(ii) and (j)(4)(D)(ii) of section 505 to four years, to forty-eight months, and to seven and one-half years shall be deemed to be four and one-half years, fifty-four months, and eight years, respectively; or

''(B) the period of market exclusivity under subsections (c)(3)(D) (iii) and (iv) and (j)(4)(D) (iii) and (iv) of section 505 shall be three years and six months rather than three years; and

''(2)(A) if the drug is the subject of—

''(i) a listed patent for which a certification has been submitted under section 505(b)(2)(A)(ii) or section (j)(2)(A)(vii)(II) and for which pediatric studies were submitted prior to the expiration of the patent (including any patent extensions), or

''(ii) a listed patent for which a certification has been submitted under section

505(b)(2)(A)(iii) or section 505(j)(2)(A)(vii)(III),

the period during which an application may not be approved under section 505(c)(3) or section 505(j)(4)(B) shall be extended by a period of six months after the date the patent expires (including any patent extensions); or

''(B) if the drug is the subject of a listed patent for which a certification has been submitted under section 505(b)(2)(A)(iv) or section 505(j)(2)(A)(vii)(IV), and in the patent infringement litigation resulting from the certification the court determines that the patent is valid and would be infringed, the period during which an application may not be approved under section 505(c)(3) or section 505(j)(4)(B) shall be extended by a period of six months after the date the patent expires (including any patent extensions).

''(b) SECRETARY TO DEVELOP LIST OF DRUGS FOR WHICH ADDITIONAL PEDIATRIC INFORMATION MAY BE BENEFICIAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary, after consultation with experts in pediatric research (such as the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Pediatric Pharmacology Research Unit Network, and the United States Pharma-

copoeia) shall develop, prioritize and publish an initial list of approved drugs for which additional pediatric information may produce health benefits in the pediatric population. The Secretary shall annually update the list.

''(c) MARKET EXCLUSIVITY FOR ALREADY-MARKETED DRUGS.—If the Secretary makes a written request for pediatric studies (which may include a time frame for completing such studies) concerning a drug identified in the list described in subsection (b) to the holder of an approved application under section 505(b)(1) for the drug, the holder agrees to the request, and the studies are completed within any such time frame and the reports thereof submitted in accordance with subsection (d)(2) or completed within any such time frame and the reports thereof accepted in accordance with subsection (d)(3)—

''(1)(A) the period during which an application may not be submitted under subsections (c)(3)(D)(ii) and (j)(4)(D)(ii) of section 505 shall be five years and six months rather than five years, and the references in subsections (c)(3)(D)(ii) and (j)(4)(D)(ii) of section 505 to four years, to forty-eight months, and to seven and one-half years shall be deemed to be four and one-half years, fifty-four months, and eight years, respectively; or

''(B) the period of market exclusivity under subsections (c)(3)(D) (iii) and (iv) and (j)(4)(D) (iii) and (iv) of section 505 shall be three years and six months rather than three years; and

''(2)(A) if the drug is the subject of—

''(i) a listed patent for which a certification has been submitted under section 505(b)(2)(A)(ii) or (j)(2)(A)(vii)(II) and for which pediatric studies were submitted prior to the expiration of the patent (including any patent extensions), or

''(ii) a listed patent for which a certification has been submitted under section 505(b)(2)(A)(iii) or section 505(j)(2)(A)(vii)(III),

the period during which an application may not be approved under section 505(c)(3) or section 505(j)(4)(B) shall be extended by a period of six months after the date the patent expires (including any patent extensions); or

''(B) if the drug is the subject of a listed patent for which a certification has been submitted under section 505(b)(2)(A)(iv) or section 505(j)(2)(A)(vii)(IV), and in the patent infringement litigation resulting from the certification the court

determines that the patent is valid and would be infringed, the period during which an application may not be approved under section 505(c)(3) or section 505(j)(4)(B) shall be extended by a period of six months after the date the patent expires (including any patent extensions).

''(d) CONDUCT OF PEDIATRIC STUDIES.—

''(1) AGREEMENT FOR STUDIES.—The Secretary may, pursuant to a written request for studies, after consultation with—

''(A) the sponsor of an application for an investigational new drug under section 505(i),

''(B) the sponsor of an application for a drug under section 505(b)(1), or

''(C) the holder of an approved application for a drug under section 505(b)(1),

agree with the sponsor or holder for the conduct of pediatric studies for such drug.

''(2) WRITTEN PROTOCOLS TO MEET THE STUDIES REQUIREMENT.—If the sponsor or holder and the Secretary agree upon written protocols for the studies, the studies requirement of subsection (a) or (c) is satisfied upon the completion of the studies and submission of the reports thereof in accordance with the original written request and the

written agreement referred to in paragraph (1). Not later than 60 days after the submission of the report of the studies, the Secretary shall determine if such studies were or were not conducted in accordance with the original written request and the written agreement and reported in accordance with the requirements of the Secretary for filing and so notify the sponsor or holder.

''(3) OTHER METHODS TO MEET THE STUDIES REQUIREMENT.—If the sponsor or holder and the Secretary have not agreed in writing on the protocols for the studies, the studies requirement of subsection (a) or (c) is satisfied when such studies have been completed and the reports accepted by the Secretary. Not later than 90 days after the submission of the reports of the studies, the Secretary shall accept or reject such reports and so notify the sponsor or holder. The Secretary's only responsibility in accepting or rejecting the reports shall be to determine, within the 90 days, whether the studies fairly respond to the written request, whether such studies have been conducted in accordance with commonly accepted scientific principles and protocols, and whether such studies have been reported in accord-

ance with the requirements of the Secretary for filing.

"(e) DELAY OF EFFECTIVE DATE FOR CERTAIN APPLICATIONS; PERIOD OF MARKET EXCLUSIVITY.—If the Secretary determines that the acceptance or approval of an application under section 505(b)(2) or 505(j) for a drug may occur after submission of reports of pediatric studies under this section, which were submitted prior to the expiration of the patent (including any patent extension) or market exclusivity protection, but before the Secretary has determined whether the requirements of subsection (d) have been satisfied, the Secretary shall delay the acceptance or approval under section 505(b)(2) or 505(j), respectively, until the determination under subsection (d) is made, but such delay shall not exceed 90 days. In the event that requirements of this section are satisfied, the applicable period of market exclusivity referred to in subsection (a) or (c) shall be deemed to have been running during the period of delay.

"(f) NOTICE OF DETERMINATIONS ON STUDIES REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall publish a notice of any determination that the requirements of subsection (d) have been met and that submissions and approvals under section 505(b)(2) or (j) for a drug will be subject to the provisions of this section.

''(g) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term 'pediatric studies' or 'studies' means at least one clinical investigation (that, at the Secretary's discretion, may include pharmacokinetic studies) in pediatric age-groups in which a drug is anticipated to be used.

''(h) LIMITATION.—The holder of an approved application for a new drug that has already received six months of market exclusivity under subsection (a) or subsection (c) may, if otherwise eligible, obtain six months of market exclusivity under subsection (c)(1)(B) for a supplemental application, except that the holder is not eligible for exclusivity under subsection (c)(2).''

''(i) SUNSET.—No period of market exclusivity shall be granted under this section based on studies commenced after January 1, 2004. The Secretary shall conduct a study and report to Congress not later than January 1, 2003 based on the experience under the program. The study and report shall examine all relevant issues, including—

''(1) the effectiveness of the program in improving information about important pediatric uses for approved drugs;

''(2) the adequacy of the incentive provided under this section;

''(3) the economic impact of the program; and

''(4) any suggestions for modification that the Secretary deems appropriate.''.

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