

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

February 4, 2016

Thomas Frieden, MD, MPH  
Director  
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
1600 Clifton Road  
Atlanta, GA 30329

Dear Dr. Frieden,

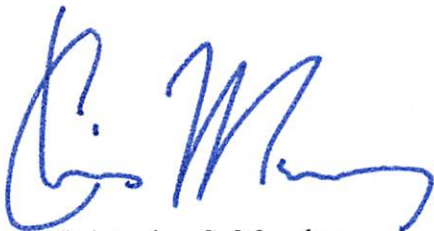
As we approach peak flu season, we write to ask that you consider the potential benefits of Flublok, an FDA-approved vaccine that is developed and manufactured in Meriden, Connecticut, in addressing this year's flu.

As you know, Flublok is developed using influenza's genetic code and contains three times more of the antigen than conventional egg-grown flu vaccines, meaning the vaccine may provide a stronger immune response against influenza A viruses. Past studies have also shown effective immune responses against drifted H3N2 strains. Given that influenza A (H3N2) and influenza A (H1N1) have been the most predominant and common viruses since October 2015, we believe Flublok could be an even more important weapon in our fight against the disease this season.

The expertise of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is unmatched and we greatly appreciate the work that your agency does to protect our nation from influenza, Ebola, and other diseases. We were thrilled when Protein Sciences was awarded a contract in December 2015 for the purchase of 100 to 300,000 doses. This contract is similar to the one the company received in 2014, under which CDC ultimately ordered 1,000 doses. Because the award only guarantees a minimum purchase by CDC, last year, Protein Sciences covered the cost of the remaining 299,000 doses manufactured. As you can imagine, this had a tremendous impact on this small business.

In the interest of ensuring the most effective protection from the flu virus, we would urge that you consider increasing the amount of Flublok doses purchased by the CDC.

Sincerely,



Christopher S. Murphy  
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



Rosa DeLauro  
Member of Congress



Elizabeth H. Esty  
Member of Congress