**NHMA Statement of Support for the Clinical Trial Modernization Act (S. 4440/H.R. 3521)**

The National Hispanic Medical Association (NHMA) supports the Clinical Trial Modernization Act (S. 4440/H.R. 3521), bipartisan legislation that seeks to expand access to clinical trials, reduce unnecessary administrative barriers and strengthen the development of innovative treatments and therapies.

Clinical trials are important to advancing medical innovation, yet Hispanic and other underrepresented populations continue to face significant barriers to participation. Barriers such as geographic limitations, logistical challenges, lack of awareness, language barriers and mistrust of the health care system contribute to the persistent underrepresentation of diverse populations in clinical research. As a result, clinical trial populations often do not adequately reflect the patients who will ultimately use these treatments.

NHMA supports policies that make clinical research more accessible, patient-centric and representative of the nation's diversity. The Clinical Trial Modernization Act would help modernize clinical trial design and participation by reducing burdens on patients and providers while expanding opportunities for broader community engagement. By leveraging innovative approaches to trial conduct and reducing unnecessary regulatory obstacles, this legislation can help ensure that more individuals have an opportunity to participate in research regardless of where they live or their socioeconomic circumstances.

Increasing participation from Hispanic communities and other historically underrepresented populations is critical to advancing health equity and generating evidence that is more applicable to the diverse populations served by our health care system. NHMA applauds Senators Tim Scott (R-SC) and Mark Warner (D-VA), as well as Representatives Raul Ruiz (D-CA) and August Pfluger (R-TX), for their bipartisan leadership on this important issue.

We urge Congress to advance the Clinical Trial Modernization Act and continue efforts to improve equitable access to clinical trials.

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