

From: "Congresswoman Mariannette" <IA01MM.Outreach@mail.house.gov>
Subject: **Leading Bipartisan Legislation to Eliminate Hepatitis C in America**

News from Representative Miller-Meeks

MILLER•MEEKS
IOWA'S 1ST DISTRICT

Leading Bipartisan Legislation to Eliminate Hepatitis C in America



Dear Fellow Iowan,

I introduced the [Cure Hepatitis C Act of 2026](#), landmark bipartisan legislation to build a nationwide, federally coordinated effort to eliminate the hepatitis C virus in the United States.

I am leading the bill alongside Reps. Diana DeGette (CO), Hank Johnson (GA), and Don Bacon (NE), with a companion measure led in the Senate by Sens. Bill Cassidy, M.D. and Chris Van Hollen.

Hepatitis C is a curable disease, yet it continues to claim American lives every year because too many people are never diagnosed or never gain access to the treatments that could save them. This legislation takes a comprehensive "test-to-treat" approach to change that, and the Congressional Budget Office estimates it would save taxpayers [\\$6.6 billion](#).

As a physician, I have seen what happens when a curable disease goes untreated simply because a patient couldn't access care. Hepatitis C is beatable. We have the tools to eliminate it, and this bill puts them within reach of the Americans who need them most. This is a commonsense, fiscally responsible effort that will save lives and save taxpayer dollars. I am proud to lead it alongside my colleagues on both sides of the aisle.

This is an incredible bipartisan bill, with one of the cosponsors Rep. DeGette saying:

"Thanks to the tireless efforts of biomedical researchers and innovators, Hepatitis C is curable. Yet far too many people remain undiagnosed or unable to access treatment, and dozens die from the disease every day. This is simply unacceptable. We have the tools to stop this epidemic and curb the human and financial costs of this disease going untreated. I am pleased to work with my colleagues on legislation that will have the greatest positive impact to public health this Congress."The Cure Hepatitis C Act would:

- Establish a national Hepatitis C Elimination Program at the Department of Health and Human Services, with a clear strategy, performance metrics, a public dashboard, and accountability to Congress.
- Create a subscription-based drug procurement program to purchase curative antiviral treatments at scale and provide them to covered patients without cost-sharing, delivering treatment to underserved, uninsured, tribal, and correctional populations.
- Expand screening, diagnostics, and outreach through grants to states, community health centers, tribal health programs, correctional facilities, and other providers on the front lines.
- Remove financial and administrative barriers by eliminating cost-sharing and prohibiting prior authorization for hepatitis C treatment, including for seniors under Medicare Part D.
- Build the public health infrastructure needed to sustain elimination, including provider training networks, point-of-care testing, and a national public awareness campaign.

The legislation is supported by more than 100 organizations, including the University of Iowa College of Public Health, the American Cancer Society, the American Pharmacists Association, the American Liver Foundation, and the American Gastroenterological Association.

If you want to stay updated on the work I'm doing to help eliminate Hepatitis C, I invite you to subscribe to my [weekly newsletter](#).

You can also connect with me on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [X/Twitter](#), and [YouTube](#).

Sincerely,



Dr. Mariannette Miller-Meeks



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