

**Social Security Financing Bill 2025: meeting the needs of French people, while respecting budgetary balances and preserving the competitiveness of pharmaceutical companies**

Combating the weakening of the pharmaceutical value chain, access to innovation and strengthening health sovereignty for patients... as the Social Security Financing Bill for 2025 reaches its reading in the Senate, we, the pharmaceutical industry, reiterate the urgent need for action.

It is possible to secure the future of the French healthcare system by making intelligent savings, without sacrificing an industry that is of strategic importance to the country! In addition to the guarantees given by the Government that the safeguard clause will be capped at €1.6 billion in 2024, it is imperative that the PLFSS for 2025 be improved today in order to preserve the economic sustainability of companies:

- There is an urgent need to initiate a gradual reduction in the safeguard clause to 500 million euros in 2027, as recommended by the interministerial mission on the financing and regulation of healthcare products, in order to give manufacturers renewed impetus and visibility.
- It would be counter-productive to compensate for the capping of this safeguard clause in 2025 by a new effort to reduce prices - via a record amount of more than €1 billion - against a backdrop of a sharp deterioration in European competitiveness and rising sectoral taxation in France.
- It is imperative to postpone the reform of the calculation of the safeguard clause (the 9th in 9 years), to allow companies to anticipate its implementation under the right conditions.
- Finally, it is now necessary to define solutions to strengthen French and European drug production, as one of the pillars of our country's health sovereignty.

For months, we have been proposing efficiency measures to safeguard the financing of the healthcare system. There is still time to activate these proposals, which include reducing drug consumption, advance payment by companies of discounts granted to the health insurance system, and access to an extended range of drugs without compulsory prescription and without delisting.

We will also be paying close attention to measures to combat shortages. In the face of punitive (increased penalties) or coercive (stricter stockholding obligations) reflexes, we are convinced that the most effective response to supply tensions is the collective mobilisation of healthcare players under government guidance, with in particular the introduction of a centralised information system to monitor stocks and the fair valuation of French and European production.

We now need to listen and work together to find the right balance and contribute to the budget effort, while preserving French people's access to their treatments and the competitiveness of our businesses.

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