

# Committee on Ways and Means

## Morocco FTA Assures that Moroccans Will Maintain Access to Medicines Necessary to Protect Public Health

- The Morocco FTA allows Morocco to use generic drugs to address critical health problems.
- A side letter that is part of the FTA specifically states that the FTA does NOT affect Morocco's ability "to take necessary measures to protect public health by promoting access to medicines for all."
- Protection of test data is a standard provision in our trade agreements that is consistent with U.S. law and with TPA guidelines.
- The Moroccan Government supports the intellectual property provisions of the Agreement, stating that it "believes that effective intellectual property right protection will play a vital role in the continued economic development of our country."
- Under the status quo, U.S. drug companies are reluctant to provide drugs to Morocco because as soon as a drug is sold in Morocco, the test data is not protected.
- Data protection will provide an incentive to bring innovative drugs to the Moroccan market.