



## **FDA's Responsibilities for Public and Individual Health Are Growing....Additional Appropriations Need to Follow**

### **FDA's mission is to protect and expand the health and safety of Americans.**

FDA is the only federal agency that touches the lives of every American multiple times every day. It is responsible for 100% of drugs, vaccines, medical devices, and cosmetics and 80% of the nation's food supply. Altogether, 25% of all U.S. consumer spending is FDA-regulated products.

### **Recognizing that FDA's public health mission is vital and growing, Congress continues to pass FDA legislation.**

Four new laws since 2009 involve major expansions of agency responsibilities: tobacco control, biosimilars, food safety and drug and device innovation and safety. Further, Congress is already looking at a number of legislative initiatives for 2013.

### **Even without new laws, globalization and scientific complexity require FDA to expand its activities each year to protect and expand public and individual health.**

Inspections at U.S. ports-of-entry are critical, but ultimately less than 2% of shipments can be inspected. To protect U.S. consumers, FDA has increased inspections overseas and established global networks to improve the standards and quality of products entering the U.S.

To address greater scientific complexity, FDA now spends more time working with sponsors, must devote more time to every application and is committed to enhancing innovation. Ultimately, that complexity and FDA's efforts result in better drugs, vaccines and devices for the American people.

### **FDA's vital, complex world-wide public health responsibilities cannot be accomplished with its existing budget. The agency's mission is "at risk."**

FDA is a staff-intensive organization. More than 80% of its budget is devoted to staff-related costs. If the agency budget fails to grow over the next few years:

- food will be less safe and consumers put at risk,
- drug and device reviews will be slower, conflicting with promises made to consumers and companies,
- problems with imports and globalization will become more numerous, and
- critical efforts to modernize the agency and improve its support for innovation will stall.

#### **FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE ALLIANCE FOR A STRONGER FDA:**

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