



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 16, 2026

MEDIA CONTACT

Chris Fox: chris@nonopioidchoices.org

Congressional Hispanic Caucus Endorses the Alternatives to PAIN Act

Washington, DC (April 16, 2026) – Voices for Non-Opioid Choices ("Voices") applauds the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC) for its endorsement of the bipartisan Alternatives to Prevent Addiction in the Nation (Alternatives to PAIN) Act (H.R.1227), legislation that would expand access to non-opioid pain management options for seniors and help prevent opioid addiction before it starts.

Reintroduced in the 119th Congress by Reps. Mariannette Miller-Meeks (R-IA), Nanette Barragán (D-CA), Mike Kelly (R-PA), and Jimmy Panetta (D-CA), the bill would ensure Medicare Part D beneficiaries have meaningful access to FDA-approved, non-opioid pain treatments by addressing coverage barriers that too often steer patients toward prescription opioids. By promoting access to safe and effective alternatives, the legislation supports patient choice and advances prevention-focused solutions to the ongoing opioid crisis.

"Addressing the opioid crisis requires prevention-focused, patient-centered solutions," **said Congresswoman Nanette Barragán.** "Latino communities continue to face disparities in overdose rates and barriers to care, and too many patients—especially seniors—are pushed toward opioids because safer alternatives remain out of reach. As a co-lead of this bipartisan legislation, I'm proud the Congressional Hispanic Caucus endorsed the Alternatives to PAIN Act, which would expand access to non-opioid pain management and help prevent addiction before it starts."

The endorsement from the Congressional Hispanic Caucus underscores the importance of ensuring equitable access to non-opioid therapies, particularly for communities disproportionately impacted by the opioid crisis. The Alternatives to PAIN Act continues to gain momentum in Congress as policymakers look for solutions that prioritize prevention, improve access to care, and reduce the risk of opioid misuse, dependence, and overdose.

"Voices for Non-Opioid Choices is grateful to the Congressional Hispanic Caucus for its leadership and strong endorsement of the Alternatives to PAIN Act," **said Chris Fox, Executive Director of Voices for Non-Opioid Choices.** "Expanding access to non-opioid pain management options is critical to reducing unnecessary opioid exposure and preventing addiction. This legislation represents an important step toward ensuring that all patients—especially those in underserved communities—can access the care that best meets their needs."

Voices for Non-Opioid Choices continues to advocate for policies that prevent opioid addiction before it starts by increasing access to non-opioid therapies for both patients and providers. With recent CDC data showing that an average of [133 Americans die every day](#) from an opioid-related

overdose, accounting for roughly two-thirds of all overdose deaths, the coalition remains committed to driving forward solutions that reduce unnecessary exposure to prescription opioids and help address the root causes of the epidemic.

About Voices for Non-Opioid Choices

Voices for Non-Opioid Choices is a nonpartisan coalition committed to preventing opioid addiction by promoting access to non-opioid therapies for managing acute pain. The coalition works tirelessly to ensure that all Americans can benefit from effective, non-addictive pain management options, regardless of their healthcare coverage or setting. For more information, visit www.nonopioidchoices.org.