



For Immediate Release

Press Statement

National Independent Laboratory Association Statement on Introduction of the VALID Act of 2021

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St. Louis, MO – The National Independent Laboratory Association (NILA) issues the following statement on today’s introduction of the *Verifying Accurate Leading-Edge IVCT Development (VALID) Act of 2021*:

The COVID-19 public health emergency has demonstrated the irreplaceable role of community, regional, and health system clinical laboratories as innovators in our national public health response and patient care. Patient access to cutting edge medical care depends on the innovation of laboratories through the creation of laboratory developed tests (LDTs).

Laboratories develop LDTs to address unmet patient needs and account for failings in existing FDA-approved diagnostic test kits and do so under existing CLIA regulations that review the quality of clinical laboratories’ testing products and processes. Disruption to the development of LDTs through duplicative regulation risks stifling innovation, limiting access to needed care, and needlessly increasing health care costs.

The National Independent Laboratory Association looks forward to engaging with Congress, the Biden administration, patients, and the broader health care community on the VALID Act and identifying how we can ensure access to innovative, and accurate, clinical laboratory testing services.

The National Independent Laboratory Association (NILA) is a trade association for community, regional, and health system clinical laboratories. NILA serves as a platform for laboratory owners and senior executives to share business expertise, focus on legislative and regulatory issues, work together to address industry concerns, and to improve the operations of NILA’s member laboratories.