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When Policy Gets the Chemistry Right

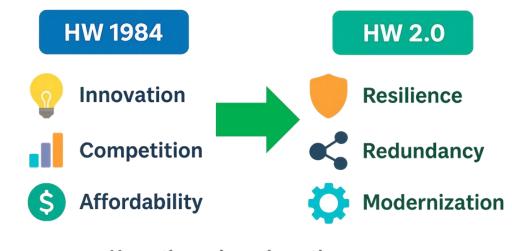


The Hatch-Waxman Act (1984) was a masterclass in balanced incentives:

- o For Innovators: Favorable marketing exclusivities and patent extensions to reward R&D investment and risk-taking
- o For Generics: Abbreviated approval pathway to bring affordable medicines to Americans
- The Result: A thriving pharmaceutical ecosystem that made the U.S. the global leader in drug innovation AND access

The Question Before Us Today:

Can we design a "Hatch-Waxman 2.0" that incentivizes not just innovation and affordability, but supply chain resilience and national security?



Keep the gains, close the gaps



The Chemistry Behind Your Medicine Cabinet





FERMENTATION:

- o Biological production of antibiotics, insulin & vaccines
- Requires specialized vessels & contamination control
- Think: brewing beer, but at pharmaceutical precision



SOLVENTS:

- o The "water" of chemistry used to dissolve, extract & purify
- o Utilized in nearly every pharmaceutical reaction



HIGH POTENCY CAPABILITY:

- Oncology & cytotoxic drugs, hormones and prostaglandins active at microgram & picograms levels
- o Requires contained facilities to protect workers

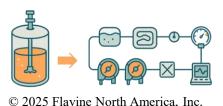


PETROLEUM INFRASTRUCTURE:

- O Basic organic building blocks for many drug synthesis
- o Common groups: Aromatics, Olefins & Aliphatics → complex molecules
- The foundation of modern chemistry

NEW TECHNOLOGY:

- o Continuous Manufacturing & Flow Chemistry: continuous processing in tubes, not batches in tanks
- o CRISPR-Cas9 Gene Editing → Cell Line Engineering
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning
- These tech help make drug development faster, safer & more efficient China and India are investing NOW





Respect the Chemistry – Three Hard Truths





THE COST REALITY – Building a resilient U.S. API supply chain will be expensive

- Not just factories but entire chemistry networks
- O Solvents, catalysts, enzymes, intermediates & waste treatment
- o Every pharmaceutical supply chain has 50-200 chemical steps



THE SAFETY IMPERATIVE:

- Bulk chemistry is inherently hazardous
- O Proper handling, training, and infrastructure are non-negotiable
- Cutting corners on safety = cutting corners on communities



THE WORKFORCE CRISIS:

- o Can't build API facilities without people who understand process chemistry
- o China graduates 3 to 5 times more students in STEM fields than the U.S. with gap widening
- Onshoring APIs without onshoring expertise = Failure

Closing Remark: Respecting the chemistry means respecting the complexity, the costs, the safety requirements, and the human expertise required. Half-measures won't work.