

**Date:** March 5, 2015

**From:** Tim Boyd, National Organization for Rare Disorders

**Re:** Right to Try laws

While NORD is encouraged by state efforts to ensure patients with life-threatening illnesses have access to potentially life-saving therapies, NORD does not believe that "right-to-try" laws are the answer. These laws, while well intentioned, do not relieve any of the reasons for a pharmaceutical company to deny a patient access to investigational drug. Instead, these laws remove the FDA from the expanded access process even though the FDA approves over 99.5% of all expanded access and emergency single patient IND requests.

NORD feels the interests of patients with life threatening diseases are better served by improving the current expanded access program to ensure all stakeholders are working together in an efficient manner, and by providing the FDA with sufficient public funding to fulfill its mandate, which includes demonstrating the efficacy and safety of investigational drugs as expeditiously as possible.

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