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Prescription Justice 3309 Robbins Road, #412 Springfield, Illinois 62704

Taking on the Crisis of High Drug Prices in America®

HELP LOWER DRUG COSTS FOR ALL UTAHANS Support HB 163 -The Prescription Drug Affordability Act

Why does Prescription Justice Supports HB 163?

- Drug prices are a national crisis. Last year, <u>45 million Americans</u> did not fill a prescription due to cost. This bill aims to gain access to lower drug prices in Canada.
- If passed, a study will be led by the Utah Department of Health for the creation of a program to permit licensed wholesalers in Utah to import commercial quantities of U.S. FDA-approved drugs from Canada, which would then be dispensed to patients at retail pharmacies and hospitals in Utah.
- The importation would only begin if the U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services certifies the program as safe, as permitted under current federal law.

How will HB 163 help lower drug costs Utahans?

- Canadian wholesale pharmacy prices are much lower on many expensive brand name drugs.
- HB 163 will lead to lower drug costs to the state government and Utah's citizens with savings of hundreds of millions of dollars.

What steps have been taken to ensure patient safety?

- HB 163 envisions an importation program that would meet the full requirements of the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, including Title II of the Drug Security and Quality Act, so that the imported medications are all correctly serialized, traceable, and labeled.
- The Secretary of HHS must certify that the Utah wholesale importation program poses "no additional risk to the public's health and safety."
- The medications from Canada must be FDA-approved, imported in accordance with U.S. law, and dispensed by pharmacies and hospitals within Utah, not via personal import or online pharmacies.

How can I learn more about HB 163?

For more information about HB 163, please visit bill sponsor, Representative Norm Thurston's website

Rep. Thurston's Op-Ed in the Salt Lake City Tribune in support of <u>safe importation from Canada</u>.

Prescription Justice's latest blog post in support of HB 163.

Contact your state Representative TODAY and urge them to support HB 163!