



CAMPAIGN
FOR PERSONAL
PRESCRIPTION
IMPORTATION

Newsletter: March 2020

CPPI Annual Survey

At the end of this month, our community will have saved an astounding **\$15,632,225** through personal prescription importation, according to the CPPI Annual Survey (click [here](#) for methodology).

Thank you to everyone who participated in our recent survey! Your input is critical for helping lawmakers and other decision makers understand the realities of prescription importation.

We will be sharing the full survey results soon, but please check out [highlights from last year's survey](#) in the meantime!

We Hear You!

According to respondents who took this [brief survey](#), they have saved \$7450 on average by ordering prescription medications from Canada! Please take our survey by clicking [here](#).

Social Media Posts of the Month:

Facebook – February 25

This Senator received \$50k from [#BigPharma](#) after he blocked a bill to lower [#highdrugprices](#) and is anyone surprised? The bill would allow for Medicare price negotiation, restrict [#RxPricing](#) hikes and limit out of pocket costs. Anyone think there may be a connection between [#BigPharma](#) contributions to elected leaders and Congressional actions?!?
<https://tinyurl.com/r9r4t77>

Twitter – February 13

Despite [#RxPricing](#) inflation slowing in the new year, problems with [#highdrugprices](#) persist!
<https://tinyurl.com/vrzf3pn>

From our blog:

KFF: 10 FAQs ON IMPORTATION

February 25, 2020

Kaiser Family Foundation shared a close-up look at the safe importation of prescription drugs, and specifically current proposals to enable states to start their own importation programs.

As the authors write, “The high cost of prescription drugs continues to be a top concern for the public” and point out that Americans often pay more for their medications compared to people in other countries.

Based on KFF research, the majority of Americans (78%) support importing medications from Canada. There is only a negligible difference based on political party – Democrats (75%), Independents (82%), and Republicans (75%).

It is refreshing to read a balanced and fair news piece on importation and KFF has long been a source of trusted reporting on important healthcare issues. Americans who are struggling to afford medications in the U.S. and looking to explore options to import their medications from reliable pharmacies in Canada, should read this piece.

As the authors point out, the law currently allows for the importation of certain drugs from Canada under “defined, limited circumstances” and only if the Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) certifies that importation poses no threat to the health and safety of the American public. Although no HHS Secretary has ever certified the safety of importation.

Many federal and state lawmakers have pushed for legislation to allow for the importation of prescription drugs from Canada and other countries and the Administration recently proposed two new pathways to allow for the safe importation of drugs from Canada and other countries.

Please check out the FAQs on recent importation proposals and the history of drug importation in the U.S., which may help explain why previous proposals have faced challenges and how these challenges might be overcome in the future through the current regulatory effort.

Read the full piece [here](#).

OP-ED: LET’S OPEN DOOR TO CANADA FOR LOWER MEDICINE PRICES

February 7, 2020

Today, New Mexico Senator Mary Kay Papen, President Pro Tempore Las Cruces and Kathy Kunkel, New Mexico Department of Health, published an op-ed highlighting the potential benefits of drug importation from Canada.

As they write:

“Many New Mexico families can’t afford the medication they need and either forgo filling their prescription drugs or end up rationing them to make their prescription last longer. Across the nation, a quarter of all Americans report difficulty paying for their prescription drugs. People are forced with difficult choices like purchasing groceries or life-saving medication. Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) released an Action Plan in December to move toward allowing states to develop programs to import safe and affordable medications from Canada.”

This week, New Mexico passed a bill – unanimously – to authorize the development of a plan to establish an importation program. Numerous other states – including Vermont, Maine, Colorado and Florida – have passed similar legislation.

As they write:

“New Mexicans have an opportunity to benefit from Canada’s lower prescription drug prices. Passage of [this bill] is the first step. We can do something to address the high cost of medications. It’s imperative that we take it. We should do whatever we can to lower the cost of prescription medications for New Mexico families.”

We hope other states follow their lead. Americans have a right to safe and affordable medications and importation of medications from Canada is the most straight-forward solution to the problem of skyrocketing drug prices.

The full op-ed can be accessed [here](#).

Please take a moment to reach out to your elected official to make sure that they do not lose sight of protecting the rights of all Americans to access safe and affordable prescription medication by visiting our Contact Congress page at <https://personalimportation.org/contact-congress>.

Take Action – We would love to hear from you!

We are currently looking for personal stories to highlight the need for access to affordable and safe prescription medications to policy makers and thought leaders who can make a difference. Please share your story by visiting [this link](#).

About the Campaign for Personal Prescription Importation

<https://personalimportation.org>

The Campaign for Personal Prescription Importation (CPPI) is a national nonprofit patient advocacy organization that fights for Americans' access to safe, affordable prescription medications from Canada for personal use. Tens of millions of Americans – especially the elderly and others on fixed incomes – struggle to pay the extremely high price of prescription medications in the U.S. We are here to be their voice.

Millions of Americans use licensed Canadian pharmacies annually, to purchase their daily prescription medications at an affordable price. We believe that all Americans have a right to affordable medications. It is time to change the current U.S. policy on this issue to provide immediate access to life-saving medications, taken daily for chronic health conditions, at affordable prices.

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