

Prescription Importation Update Safe and Affordable. Now.

## **BigPharma Lies, Dire Costs for Americans**



Big Pharma is ratcheting up its campaign and pushing big lies to cut off American access to affordable prescription drugs. The Big Pharma front groups are pumping up lies and their efforts to pass the <u>DRUGS Act ('Domain Reform for</u> <u>Unlawful Drug Sellers Act, S.3399 & H.R.6352</u>), a bill introduced by Senators Amy Klobuchar (MN) and Marco Rubio (FL) and Representatives David McKinley (WV) and Bobby Rush (IL), that would rob millions of Americans of critical daily medications.

# Take Action – Tell Congress No to the DRUGS Act

"Americans who depend on importation to access their critical daily medications will be cut off if Big Pharma has its way and Congress passes the DRUGS Act," says Jack Pfeiffer, Executive Director of the Campaign for the Personal Prescription Importation. "While one in three Americans struggle to afford health costs, Congress must know that passing the DRUGS Act would have dire consequences for millions of Americans."

## Take Action – Tell Congress No to the DRUGS Act

**Over 26,000 Letters to Congress** have been sent in the since January requesting that the Drugs Act legislation be dropped and personal prescription importation be protected. CPPI's Advocacy Portal makes contacting Congress as easy as

**Over 100 Letters to Media** have been submitted to local newspaper editorial boards warning of the dire impact that the DRUGS Act will have on Americans.



## Take Action - Tell Congress No to the DRUGS Act

# **DRUGS ACT FACTS:**

False Claim: The DRUGS ACT would combat online sellers of dangerous controlled substances.

Truth: The goal of the DRUGS Act is to cut off Americans' access to international online pharmacies that sell the same safe medications at a fraction of the Big Pharma U.S. prices.



*False Claim: 95% of online pharmacy websites do not comply with applicable laws and pharmacy standards.* 

TRUTH: Big Pharma doesn't like competition offering Americans fair prices on prescription drugs. The National Association of Boards of Pharmacy (NABP) and state pharmacy boards are led, funded, and beholden to Big Pharma interests. Big Pharma front groups are pushing the DRUGS Act in order to make it illegal for websites of pharmacies licensed outside of the U.S. to sell medications to Americans.

False Claim: The DRUGS Act would combat the Opioid Epidemic and online sales of opioids and fentynal.

TRUTH: The DRUGS Act does not even mention the words opioids or fentanyl.

In fact, DRUGS Act backer, <u>NABP took \$1 million</u> from Purdue Pharma, as well as funds from <u>CVS, Walgreens,</u> <u>and Walmart</u> all of which have been held liable for the opioid crisis by U.S. Courts.



False Claim: 95% of websites selling prescription drugs are unsafe and unlicensed.

TRUTH: Online pharmacy websites recommended by CPPI, like those certified by the CIPA have 100% safety records and are licensed in Canada to standards equivalent to those of the FDA.

The FDA has never reported anyone harmed by a medication they ordered from a licensed international pharmacy requiring a valid prescription.

False Claim: The DRUGS Act is needed because online websites sell drugs without prescriptions.

Trurth: <u>Safe, licensed international pharmacies</u> require valid prescriptions and don't sell controlled substances.

The special interest groups backing the DRUGS Act, which are funded by pharmaceutical companies and <u>lobbyists</u>, have made a habit of shamelessly <u>exploiting the opioid crisis</u> to <u>attack</u> <u>prescription importation</u> from international pharmacies.

The CDC estimates that more than <u>5 million Americans</u> import medications and their <u>leading</u> reason for importing medications is cost, as they find average annual savings of over \$3,700 a year from licensed Canadian pharmacies.

Restrictions to medication access caused by costs can be deadly, says the <u>National Bureau of</u> <u>Economic Research</u> and <u>West Health Policy Center</u>.

High drug prices are putting access to medication out of reach for a rising number of Americans - <u>30% of Americans</u> now report forgoing treatment in the prior three months due to costs, and at least <u>18 million</u> can't afford medications.

Over <u>800 drugs have increased in price</u> since the start of 2022. According to <u>AARP</u>, brand-name drug prices increased an average of 276.8% between 2006 and 2020, compared to the cumulative general inflation rate of 32% during the same period.

"The DRUGS Act would put Americans in jeopardy. Congress must not cut Americans off from access to their prescription medications at a time when U.S. drug prices are as high as ever," says Pfeiffer.

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#### 5 Quick Ways You Can Take Action:

the latest news on this important issue

1. Let Congress know how this issue impacts you <u>HERE</u>

2. Sign up to receive CPPI communications HERE

 Share your story to help inform decision makers on the real impact of high drug prices <u>HERE</u>
Join our Action Committee and get more involved by emailing us at info@personalimportation.org
Follow us on <u>Twitter</u> & <u>Facebook</u> so you can see

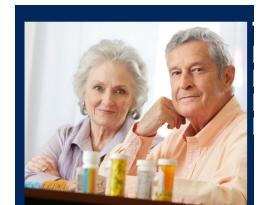


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#### In Case You Missed It:

#### SURVEY RESULTS: Savings Increase 73% to Over \$3.7K/yr for Americans Importing Meds from Canada

Americans are saving more money than ever by importing prescription medicines from Canada according



to the results of the Campaign for Personal Prescription Importation's latest survey. **Key Findings** 

- 73% increase in average reported savings, up to \$3,744 in 2021 from \$2,736 in 2020 for Americans who import prescription medications from certified online Canadian pharmacies; savings average of \$312 per month, compared to U.S. costs.
- 95% of respondents cite the high cost of prescription drugs in the U.S. as the primary reason for ordering from licensed online Canadian pharmacies.
- Over 96% of respondents say that addressing the high cost of prescription drugs in the U.S. is important to the way they vote. 84% say it is very or extremely important to their voting behavior.
- 98% of respondents would recommend importation to their friends and family members.
- There is a continued increase in the percentage of Americans who reported ordering prescription drugs from online Canadian pharmacies for their first time, 17% in 2021 up from 13% in 2020 and 8% in 2019.

### The Olympic Challenges of Prescription Drug Prices for Mental Health

Olympians and Covid-19 have drawn fresh attention to the importance of managing mental health, but accessing affordable mental health prescription medications in the U.S. is an Olympic challenge itself. CPPI's new price comparison of brand-name mental health prescription drugs shows Americans save an average 80% from online, licensed Canadian pharmacies compared to leading U.S. competitors. <u>Read More...</u>



**Olympic Hurdles to Mental Health Meds** 

Americans find 80% Savings from Canadian Pharmacies

97% off Wellbutrin 86% off Latuda 84% off Saphris 83% off Geodon 81% off Lexapro



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#### About 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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