

State of Misconsin 2003 - 2004 LEGISLATURE

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1, TO ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1, TO 2003 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 71

March 2, 2004 - Offered by Representatives POCAN, BOYLE and CULLEN.

1	At the locations indicated, amend the substitute amendment as follows:
2	1. Page 1, line 6: delete lines 6 to 12 and substitute:
3	"Whereas, Americans pay drug prices that are 30 to 300 percent more to fill
4	their prescriptions than in European and other industrialized nations; and
5	Whereas, the United States is the world's largest market for pharmaceuticals
6	yet consumers still pay the world's highest prices; and
7	Whereas, according to the Congressional Budget Office, American seniors
8	alone will spend \$1.8 trillion dollars on pharmaceuticals over the next ten years; and
9	Whereas, allowing open pharmaceutical markets from abroad could lower
10	prices at least 35 percent and save American consumers at least \$635 billion of their
11	own money each year; and

Whereas, pharmaceutical companies reported sales of \$219 billion in 2002 and 1 $\mathbf{2}$ made \$20 million in federal campaign contributions during the last election cycle; 3 now, therefore, be it

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4 **Resolved**, by the assembly, the senate concurring, That the Wisconsin State Legislature opposes the policy of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration of not $\mathbf{5}$ 6 allowing individuals and pharmacies in the United States to re-import prescription 7 medications purchased in other countries that have regulatory safeguards for the 8 manufacture and distribution of drugs as strict as regulatory safeguards in the 9 United States; and, be it further

10 **Resolved**, That the Wisconsin State Legislature encourages state and local 11 units of government to take the lead and begin the re-importation from foreign 12countries of prescription drugs that are as strict as regulatory safeguards of the 13United States and that are cheaper than their United States counterpart; and, be it 14 further

15**Resolved, That** the Wisconsin State Legislature directs the Assembly and 16 Senate Chief Clerk to immediately allow employees of the Wisconsin State 17Legislature to purchase prescription drugs from foreign countries under their health 18 care plans; and, be it further

19 **Resolved**, That the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this joint 20resolution to all governors and to the presiding officer of each house of all state 21legislatures.".

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(END)