



1906 E Broadway Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501-4700
Tel. 701-258-4968
Fax 701-258-9312
e-mail ndpha@nodakpharmacy.com

March 20, 2003

John DelGiorno, Vice President
State Government Affairs
GlaxoSmithKline
Room B3124
Five Moore Drive
RTP, NC 27709

Dear Mr. DelGiorno:

This letter is to indicate the support of the North Dakota Pharmaceutical Association for the stand that GlaxoSmithKline has taken against the illegal import of drugs from Canada. This is a fast growing problem and local Boards of Pharmacy and state officials cannot fight the battle alone.

The North Dakota State Board of Pharmacy has taken the position that importing drugs from Canada through the mail or by common carrier is a violation of North Dakota law. The Board has sent letters directly to pharmacies and has had man exchanges of correspondence with the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association. The Board also sends informational letters to newspapers and media outlets in the state that may be advertising Canadian pharmacies. These activities have had some impact but cannot stem the flow.

We are concerned that illegal importation will weaken the treatment relationship between the local physician, pharmacist, and patient with a resultant decrease in the quality of health care. In addition, the practice opens the door to non-approved and counterfeit coming to the patients our pharmacists serve in the state.

We hope that other companies will follow the lead of GlaxoSmithKline to take a stand against these illegal Canadian imports. Thank you for your efforts.

Sincerely,

Galen Jordre, R.Ph.
Executive Vice President

CC: Mary Koenecke
State Government Affairs - ND