



ASOP Canada Statement on U.S. Executive Order on Promoting Competition in the American Economy

TORONTO July 14, 2021 – In response to the Biden Administration’s [Executive Order on Promoting Competition in the American Economy](#), which requests the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to work with U.S. States and Tribes to import prescription drugs from Canada through the development of importation programs in accordance with the Medicare Prescription Drug, Improvement, and Modernization Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-173, 117 Stat. 2066), and the FDA’s implementing regulations.

“We respect the Biden Administration’s efforts to assist the U.S. population in accessing affordable medicine. At the same time, any plan to import medicines from Canada is not safe nor practical.

Our drug supply is meant for Canadians, not a country with a population 10 times our size. Canada already faces shortages for a range of life-saving medicines.

ASOP Canada fears that importation of Health Canada-approved medication by the U.S. will potentially drive Canadian and American patients to look for medicine through unconventional sources, such as unlicensed, illegal internet pharmacies that often distribute counterfeit, substandard or unapproved drugs.

Furthermore, [statements](#) and [actions](#) demonstrate the Government of Canada is willing to take the steps necessary to prevent shortages in light of U.S. importation proposals.

We urge the Biden Administration to pursue other mechanisms to help Americans access medicines in a manner that does not place Canada’s drug supply at risk.

Together with 14 other organizations, ASOP Canada has consistently voiced our concerns about U.S. drug importation proposals to Canada’s Health Ministerⁱ and Canada’s Prime Ministerⁱⁱ. We will continue to urge Canada’s government to take swift and urgent action to protect Canada’s drug supply in response to U.S. state plans to import medicines from Canada.”

ⁱ https://buysaferx.pharmacy/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Health-Canada-Stakeholder-Letter_Importation.Minister.FINAL072519.pdf

ⁱⁱ https://buysaferx.pharmacy/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Multi-Stakeholder-Letter-to-PM-Trudeau.Final_.110619.pdf