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The Center for Innovation and Free Enterprise opposes the *Importation of Prescription Drugs* proposed rule.

The Department of Health and Human Services' plans to import foreign prescription drugs from Canada into the United States in an effort to provide cost savings for Americans. Instead, adopting such a plan would mean: endangered patient safety, less access to medications, and high drug costs.

The importation of foreign prescription drugs is harmful to both patients and taxpayers. We cannot guarantee the safety of foreign drugs coming into the United States. Further, we cannot rely on Canada to validate the safety of these drugs. There are no studies that state importing drugs from Canada will give patients access to cheaper prescriptions, in fact there are numerous reports stating it would have no significant effect at all.

Although the goal of lowering prices and reducing out of pocket costs for American patients is one CIFE shares with the FDA, we cannot get on board with the importation of prescription drugs. Implementing this proposal will increase costs, provide less access to drugs, and harm the safety of Americans.

There is a solution to reforming health care costs and providing access to medications that doesn't put Americans at risk. The *Importation of Prescription Drugs* is not that solution.

Thank you,

Ginevra Joyce-Myers

Executive Director

Center for Innovation and Free Enterprise