Date: March 12, 2020 at 11:29 AM

To: Garratt-Reed, Megan



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Hi Meg,

This is probably overkill given that I have been participating on the Committee but attached is a brief letter that outlines out initial thoughts on some of the questions asked in the Horvath Report that we would like to submit pursuant to the email notice below. Please feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions.

I have also got a medical appointment on Monday so I won't be ale to attend this meeting.

From: Jeffrey A. Austin

Sent: Wednesday, March 4, 2020 11:11 AM

To: David Winslow

Subject: U See this?

HHS Update

March 3, 2020

Prescription Drug Importation Update

In November 2019, the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) <u>released a proposed rule</u> laying out a process to design a program for the wholesale importation of prescription drugs from Canada, as required by <u>legislation</u> passed in the first legislative session. After receiving and reviewing public comments, the Department has provisionally adopted the rule as it was proposed. The Legislature is now reviewing the rule.

Maine DHHS continues to make progress, including by convening a <u>series of stakeholder meetings</u> to discuss key components of a wholesale drug importation program. Following the first meeting, a <u>memorandum</u> was developed to give an overview of program design considerations and outline key questions.

In addition to using the meetings as a forum for discussion of these questions, the Department is soliciting written feedback from interested stakeholders. Commenters are encouraged to focus their responses on the questions outlined in the memorandum, but other comments relevant to the specifics of program design are welcome. In order to ensure compliance with a recent amendment to the Department's proposed rule during the legislative approval process, the deadline for written comments will be March 16, 2020.

Comments should be emailed to

Jeffrey Austin Maine Hospital Association



Testimony on Sectio...ion.doc