

**SB 2209 – Testimony by Dustin Gawrylow (Lobbyist #266) North Dakota Watchdog Network**

The North Dakota Watchdog Network opposes efforts this session to create price controls that interfere with the free market - either directly, or by referencing prices in Canada. We also oppose placing North Dakota's economic value in the hands of other states.

We do support the idea of studying ways the state can amend its own laws to help industry make prescription drugs and healthcare generally more affordable. (refer to support of SB 2212)

If that study (SB 2212) goes forward, it is our hope that the committee will bring in experts from industry to discuss in depth the various factors involved that increase the cost of prescriptions.

On the issue of re-importation, the committee should also invite experts from Canada to ask them how their system works as well as if their government would actually let North Dakota or any other state implement such policies.

Again, we support a study as long as it is complete and not just for show - one way or another.

We oppose immediate policy changes until a full study can be completed.

Extra-credit for legislators: Take 45 minutes to watch a discussion I had with Peter Fjelstad, Senior Director of Public Policy of PHARMA on this subject:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7aUQfQ7rX48>