

TESTIMONY OF SCOTT MILLER

House Bill 1250 – Canadian Drug Importation

Good Morning, my name is Scott Miller. I am the Executive Director of the North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System, or NDPERS. I am here to testify in a neutral position regarding House Bill 1250.

House Bill 1250 requires the NDPERS Health Plan to cover prescription drugs imported from Canada. Any copayment for a drug imported from Canada may not be more than \$25. This bill does comply with the statutory requirement that health plan mandates first apply to NDPERS.

Our consultant, Deloitte, noted that the issues of potentially a very limited supply of imported drugs from Canada, and subsequent price equalization, both indicate that little if any potential savings could be realized by the State's health program as a result of this bill.

We also understand that the FDA has not yet approved the importation of drugs from other countries, although an Executive Order last summer directed the FDA to consider amending its rules. We do not believe that has occurred as of yet.

Mr. Chairman, that concludes my testimony.