

## Steven Sepe

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**From:** Jordan Goyette <goyettejordan@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, February 28, 2021 2:10 PM  
**To:** House Health and Human Services Committee  
**Subject:** Testimony on H 5249 for hearing on 3/1

To Chairman Casey & members of the committee,

I am writing to you to urge your strong support of Chairwoman Williams bill H 5248, which would allow the the wholesale importation of the much cheaper priced pharmaceuticals available in or neighbor to the north in Canada. It is well known this has been a critical failing of our government to provide, as FDA commissioners appointed by both Democratic & Republican presidents have been slow to come around to this proposal. But it is also well know that this is safe, and can be a huge weight off of the people here struggling with the chronically high costs of prescription drugs. The very fact that Canada has cheaper versions of the same egregiously priced medications here is a glowing example of the differences in our healthcare system. Canada has an agency within its single-payer system that directly negotiators with no pharmaceutical companies to offer lower prices. Now they either do so, or be shut out of the market entirely. As the federal government here continues to not do this, it is time Rhode Island looked to our neighbors to the North for some much needed help. This proposal has support across the political spectrum, and I hope you will swiftly bring this bill up for a vote.

Thank You,

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Sent from my iPhone