

Chairman Craven and members of the House Judiciary Committee:

I am writing to you today in support of House Bill 5913.

We all know that prices for prescription drugs are much higher in the United States than in other countries. We've all heard of the many excuses for these high prices whether it is cost of research, the cost of pharmacy benefit managers, safety standards or a myriad of other "reasons".

But the truly shameful practice of "pay-for-delay" that entices another drug manufacturer to delay introducing a competing generic product reveals the real reason – greed.

House Bill 5913 would address this anticompetitive practice. "Pay-for-delay" does just what its name implies -- it delays the entry of generic drugs to the market, increases costs, and ultimately forces consumers to pay more for the medication they need to stay alive and healthy.

Rhode Islanders deserve better.

Please support this important bill.

Sincerely,

Daniel Liparini