



JIM DOYLE
GOVERNOR
STATE OF WISCONSIN

December 19, 2003

Attorney General John Ashcroft
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530-0001

Dear Attorney General Ashcroft:

My office has been notified that several major pharmaceutical companies have recently made what appears to be a concerted and coordinated effort to impose severe restrictions on how and to whom the wholesale drugs that they provide to Canadian distributors may be sold. Companies are also threatening to ration the supply of drugs to distributors who make their products available to Americans at more affordable prices. The actions taken by these companies have caused at least one distributor, from whom the state of Wisconsin may have purchased prescription drugs at a considerable savings to taxpayers, to pull out of negotiations.

If there is collusion or other anti-competitive behavior taking place that deprives the citizens of Wisconsin and other states of the opportunity to purchase prescription medications at the lowest possible prices, it must be stopped immediately. Therefore, I call on you to initiate an investigation into these allegations to enforce the anti-trust laws and guarantee that the citizens of Wisconsin are able to bargain for the most competitive prices.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Doyle".

Jim Doyle
Governor