



National Military and Veterans Alliance

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January 11th, 2017

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators McConnell and Schumer,

The National Military and Veterans Alliance (NMVA), a nonpartisan policy and advocacy organization composed of military associations and veterans organizations, writes to express our collective concern regarding the possibility or potential for legislative efforts to be made during this session of Congress that would allow the importation of drugs that may not be subject to the same scrutiny or standards as those manufactured in the United States or in countries adhering to U.S. drug importation regulations.

For many years, NMVA has been on record in opposition to the importation of such medicines. We believe that the risk is so great and the potential savings so small that opening up the doors to our country makes little sense and puts our members and all those living in the United States in an unnecessarily vulnerable position.

The vigilance under which our own drug production and delivery systems operate guarantees that patients receive safe and effective medicines. We count on that vigilance. Allowing importation of drugs that are not scrutinized to our standards exposes this safe and secure system to outside threats.

We depend upon the safety of our nation's drug supply and ask you to stand firmly with us against any diminution of that standard. Importing drugs exposes all Americans to unnecessary threats and we urge your leadership in opposition to any initiative that would support or allow the importation of unsafe drugs into the United States.

We thank you for your leadership and consideration regarding this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ted S. Painter".

Ted S. Painter
NMVA Co-Director
American Military Retirees Association

American Logistics Association
American Military Retirees Association
American Military Society
American Retirees Association
Army Navy Union
Military Order of Foreign Wars
Military Order of the Purple Heart
Society of Military Widows
The Retired Enlisted Association
Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors
Vietnam Veterans of America