
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR RONNIE MUSGROVE
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

TO: GOVERNOR
FROM: SMITH
SUBJECT: BUSINESS FOR AFFORDABLE MEDICINE
DATE: 01/11/02
CC: MAYO, RENICK

I sent the attached memo to you and have spoken to Fred to explore which Governor's have signed on to this. Fred talked to Governor Deans' Chief of Staff and he said that Governor Wise, Governor Siegelman (D) from Alabama, Governor Jeanne Shaheen (D) of New Hampshire, Governor ???? (D) of Hawaii, and of course Governor Dean(D) of Vermont have gone on record supporting reforming the Hatch/Waxman Act. Fred said they are a mix of middle of the road Democrats.

Pharmaceutical companies have exploited a number of loopholes in the Hatch/Waxman Act, which governs competition in the pharmaceutical marketplace, to prevent the introduction of less-costly versions of their drugs. Legislation has been introduced in Congress to close loopholes and bring substantial savings to employers and consumers. Pharmaceutical companies bid to gain additional patent protection for their drugs and prolong the introduction of cheaper, generic drugs.

Governor Dean plans to present policy at the winter NGA meeting to reform the Hatch/Waxman Act. Some states with large pharmaceutical companies are opposing this.

Would you like to do this?

YES _____

NO _____