

SHERROD BROWN
THIRTEENTH DISTRICT
OHIO

COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND COMMERCE

RANKING MEMBER,
SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
ENERGY AND AIR QUALITY

SUBCOMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, TRADE,
AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

COMMITTEE ON
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

April 22, 2004

DISTRICT OFFICES:
205 WEST 20TH STREET, SUITE M-230
LORAIN, OH 44052-3777
(440) 245-5350
FAX: (440) 245-5355
1-800-234-6413 (OH13)

1655 WEST MARKET STREET, SUITE E
AKRON, OH 44313-7021
(330) 865-8450
FAX: (330) 865-8470

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2332 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-3401
FAX: (202) 225-2266

sherrrod@mail.house.gov
<http://www.house.gov/sherrrodbrown/>

VAdm. Richard Carmona
Surgeon General of the United States
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 18-66
Rockville, Maryland 20857

Dear Surgeon General Carmona:

I am writing to invite you to schedule an HHS Task Force on Drug Importation listening session in Ohio.

The Task Force has had a good start, with significant input from a variety of stakeholders and an opportunity for the public to submit written comment. All of the Task Force's listening sessions and public meetings to date, however, have been held in the Washington area.

My constituents have traveled to Canada to buy medicine and escape the drug companies' price discrimination against Americans. They know from personal experience that importation could give them access to the same safe, effective medicine sold in the U.S., but at much more affordable prices. They know that blocking importation would create an access barrier that has real consequences for patient health and safety. They know that the government that put a man on the Moon can ensure the safety of imported prescription drugs.

The consequences of the importation debate will be felt on Main Street, not on Capitol Hill or Pennsylvania Avenue. I urge you to join me in Ohio for a Task Force listening session this year. Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,


SHERROD BROWN
Member of Congress

2004N-0115

LET 3