

2469-S

Sponsor(s): House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives G. Simpson, Campbell, Conway, Clements, Upthegrove, O'Brien, Cody, Cooper, Bush, Dickerson, Dunshee, Darneille, Hunt, Wood, Chase, Linville, Moeller, Morrell, Rockefeller, Clibborn, Lantz and Schual-Berke)

Brief Description: Authorizing certain state agencies to purchase prescription drugs from Canadian wholesalers and pharmacies.

**HB 2469-S.E - DIGEST**

(AS OF HOUSE 2ND READING 2/13/04)

Provides that, in addition to price discounts negotiated with pharmaceutical manufacturers for state purchased health care programs and eligible individuals, the health care authority is authorized to purchase, or facilitate the purchase of, drugs approved by the food and drug administration from Canadian pharmacies and wholesalers. The health care authority shall develop an Internet web site and use the pharmacy connection program established under RCW 41.05.520 to provide information to Washington residents regarding opportunities to purchase prescription drugs from Canada and the best means to ensure that any prescription drugs they purchase have been safely manufactured, distributed, and stored.

Requires the attorney general to review the web site and the information provided through the pharmacy connection program and certify that they do not violate any applicable state or federal law.

Provides that agencies administering a state-purchased health care program shall not implement the provisions of this act relating to the bulk purchasing of prescription drugs from Canada until federal statutory or regulatory action is taken to authorize such purchasing.