DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

News Release

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR


Attorneys General Send Affordable Drug Letter To Congress

HONOLULU-Attorney General Mark Bennett today announced that he and 37 other attorneys general sent a letter to Congress asking the Congress to address the issue of affordable prescription drugs. The letter (attached) noted that the cost of brand name drugs is greatly reduced when generic equivalents are introduced into the market, and that generic equivalents will reduce State Medicaid costs. The letter stated that brand name manufacturers have improperly used the courts to delay entry into the market of generic competitors, have improperly used the patent laws in order to prevent the entry of generic drugs into the market, have fostered anticompetitive agreements, have engaged in illegal collusion, and have engaged in false and misleading advertising.

The letter asked the Congress to carefully examine the relationship between rising prescription drug costs and anticompetitive behavior, and to enact legislation preserving and promoting generic competition for prescription drugs.

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