

The high number of prices out of compliance suggests either that some patentees following a strategy of setting high introductory prices so as to benefit from a temporary gain or that they resist the board's guidelines, especially those limiting the prices of new drugs that bring moderate, little or no therapeutic improvements to the range of drug products already existing in Canada.

That is from the chair of that board that was established after Bill C-22.

It is no different in the United States. I was watching CNN the other day and there was a report on an organization called Families U.S.A., which had a press conference to outline, among other things, that the top 20 prescription brand name drugs in the United States have gone up in price over 70 per cent in the last six years. This government wishes essentially to emulate the same system that exists in the United States.

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Even the government's own study provided to the consumer and corporate affairs minister recently said that longer patent periods:

—will increase the length of time before generic competition can occur. Therefore consumers will have to pay more for drugs over time.

That was a study provided by the government's own department.

The evidence is clear. Vote for Bill C-91 and that is a recipe and a prognosis for higher prescription drug costs. Canadians do not want any part of that.

Second, the minister always says that we must provide Canadian entrepreneurs with a stimulus to develop and compete not only domestically but internationally. What does Bill C-91 do for the Canadian generic industry?

The generic industry is wholly Canadian owned and grown. Brand name manufacturers are largely offshore multinational corporations. The generic industry employs almost 3,000 Canadians across this country. It has been able, through the drug licensing system, to capture almost 10 per cent of the marketplace in Canada. It had sales last year of over \$430 million. All those jobs, all those profits, all those taxes, and all the research and development that takes place in the generic industry happens in this country. Profits are not flowing south. There are no tax write-offs. There is not the stimulus to send jobs south. It all happens in Canada.

### *Government Orders*

Therefore Bill C-91, which would kill that generic industry, would remove the window that this system has provided for Canadian companies like Apotex Incorporated in Toronto and Novopharm of Scarborough, two leading generic companies that are doing extremely well. We should be proud of the fact that they are doing well in this high-tech pharmaceutical industry because they are Canadian. They also moderate our drug pricing systems for Canadians.

Why not encourage, through this system, Canadian companies to take pride and stimulate additional companies like Novopharm and Apotex in the future. Through this legislation not only would we be killing an Apotex or a Novopharm but we would be ensuring that in the future no other such companies, Canadian companies with Canadian risks and Canadian creativity for Canadian jobs, will be given a chance to establish themselves.

The minister talks about the flood of investments that will flow from the multinational corporations. He was the same minister that talked about the flood of investments if we were to approve Bill C-22 some years ago.

The government promised that there would be some 5,000 new jobs created. It is not even one-third of the way, as we speak today, in delivering on that promise. Over half those jobs are in the marketing and sales components and divisions of those multinational corporations. They are not in the research and development area, as this government promised us.

Second, let us get behind our Canadian industry and Canadian companies in this pharmaceutical industry. The worry of the international community is that this system will be emulated in other parts of the world. In fact President-elect Bill Clinton made an issue in his campaign, a successful campaign which we all witnessed, the bringing to a stop of the spiralling costs to America of their prescription drugs as well as their health care system.

Third, does this government not have any pride left in any Canadian institutions?

Does it have to put its hands on every Canadian institution that has served this country well? Does it not realize that the generic compulsory drug licensing system is an institution made in Canada for Canadians and by Canadians and that it is working well? It is fair. The brand name companies are making their profits as they