

COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY 10733

PRODUCT WHICH WILL REPRESENT THE MOST REASONABLE COST TO THE PATIENT. IF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE HAS INFORMATION WHICH WOULD BE USEFUL AND PERTINENT IN DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN GOOD AND BAD DRUG PRODUCTS OR IN DISTINGUISHING BETWEEN GOOD AND BAD DRUG MANUFACTURERS, IT IS OUR PLEA THAT YOUR COMMITTEE SEE THAT SUCH INFORMATION -- WHICH WAS DEVELOPED AT TAXPAYERS' EXPENSE -- IS MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE, SO THAT IT MIGHT BE USED TO THE PUBLIC'S BENEFIT. WE INTEND ALSO TO CONTINUE OUR EFFORTS TO OBTAIN SUCH INFORMATION FROM DOD DIRECTLY. BY THE SAME TOKEN, IF THE SUGGESTIONS OF WIDESPREAD AVAILABILITY OF DEFECTIVE DRUGS -- AND OF WIDESPREAD EXISTENCE OF INCOMPETENT MANUFACTURERS -- REPRESENT EXAGGERATIONS, HYPERBOLE, OR UNSUPPORTED PROPAGANDA, THEN YOUR COMMITTEE WOULD RENDER AN EQUALLY BENEFICIAL SERVICE BY EXPOSING THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER.