

COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY 11845

NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
2101 CONSTITUTION AVENUE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20418

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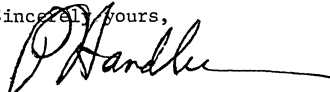
The Honorable Gaylord Nelson
Chairman
Subcommittee on Monopoly of the
Select Committee on Small Business
United States Senate
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Nelson:

Last month the National Research Council's Drug Research Board adopted a resolution concerning drug substitution laws. Briefly, the resolution urges that a physician should be required to give to, or explicitly withhold from, the pharmacist the option of substituting one brand of a drug he prescribes for another brand of the same drug - an option which could in many cases provide the same treatment at lower cost.

Knowing of your interest in this subject, I am enclosing a copy of the Academy's press release on this subject which contains the adopted resolution and a background commentary on the issue. The members of the Drug Research Board also are listed in this release.

Sincerely yours,



Philip Handler
President

Enclosure