

COMPETITIVE PROBLEMS IN THE DRUG INDUSTRY 12091

Shortly after the establishment of this Committee in July 1974, the Committee drafted a charter which was signed by all of the participating agencies in September 1974. It then set in motion the process of implementing the first three recommendations of the Study. Prior consideration was given to eliminating duplication of purchasing effort by fixing in a single purchasing office all purchasing responsibilities for a single family of items.

I shall now summarize the first three recommendations:

1. Establish a single system for Government-wide management of drugs, medical items and nonperishable subsistence for the Federal Government.
2. Utilize the competence and capability which now exist in DOD and VA to purchase these items, and transfer the corresponding purchasing responsibilities that GSA and DHEW now have to DOD and VA.
3. The Administrator of General Services should assume lead responsibility for developing the system through an interagency committee with membership comprised of DHEW, DOD and VA to be chaired by GSA by taking these steps: