

Mallinckrodt Documents – Lobbying Against Regulation

Key finding: Mallinckrodt lobbied legislators and executive branch officials at the state and federal levels to try to forestall or weaken regulations on the marketing, prescription, and sales of opioids.

Why this is important: Behind-the-scenes lobbying allowed the pharmaceutical industry to block or weaken opioid regulations — or to write the rules itself, often hiding behind nominally independent health care policy institutes.

Evidence

Document Title: HINJ Board of Trustees Conference Call Agenda

OIDA ID: <https://idl.ucsf.edu/opioids/docs/#id=ntxb0238>

Date: 2017-03

Description: The HealthCare Institute of New Jersey (HINJ) is a trade association for pharmaceutical companies, providing a variety of public relations and lobbying services. This conference call agenda from March 2017 details the Institute's work on Mallinckrodt's behalf, including hosting public receptions attended by state and federal legislators, lobbying against new state legislation limiting the size of initial opioid prescriptions, and lobbying against proposed federal legislation to allow wholesale importing of cheaper prescription drugs from Canada.

Document Title: RE: Are we doing comments on the NJ Gift ban rule?

OIDA ID: <https://idl.ucsf.edu/opioids/docs/#id=zmn0238>

Date: 2017-11

Description: In late 2017 and early 2018, Gov. Chris Christie's administration in New Jersey restricted the payments pharmaceutical companies could make to prescribers for consulting and speaking engagements. In this email thread, Julian Malasi, director of government affairs and advocacy relations, asks Mark Tyndall, vice president of government affairs, policy and advocacy, about the company's official response to this "gift ban." Tyndall wants no comments directly from Mallinckrodt and instead prefers prepared statements from two lobbying groups: HINJ and Biotechnology Innovation Organization.

Document Title: RE: HINJ Board of Trustees: Materials Posted [2018 Strategic Plan Meeting]

OIDA ID: <https://idl.ucsf.edu/opioids/docs/#id=qyyb0238>

Date: 2017-12

Description: In this email thread, Mallinckrodt leadership reviews and discusses plans and documents ahead of the HINJ Board of Trustees meeting. Malasi calls for a “comprehensive plan to roll back” New Jersey’s restrictions on pharmaceutical companies’ payments to prescribers. Malasi further notes that HINJ relies heavily on support from the national trade association Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America and calls for a close working relationship between the organizations.

Document Title: HINJ Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda

OIDA ID: <https://idl.ucsf.edu/opioids/docs/#id=ryyb0238>

Date: 2017-12

Description: This meeting agenda for the HINJ’s Board of Trustees contains updates concerning Gov. Christie’s ban on gifts and payments from pharmaceutical companies to prescribers, assessments of Gov.-elect Phil Murphy’s positions regarding the pharmaceutical industry and the opioid crisis, and the effect of Congressional tax reform legislation on Mallinckrodt’s finances. The agenda also notes that Mallinckrodt contributed to Murphy’s campaigns in the primary and general elections, and that the Government Affairs team has had “a number of productive face-to-face interactions” with the governor-elect.