

ROY COOPER ATTORNEY GENERAL Department of Justice PO Box 629 Raleigh, North Carolina 27602 Phone: (919) 716-6400 Fax: (919) 716-6750

September 17, 2009

North Carolina Senate President Pro Tempore Marc Basnight North Carolina House of Representatives Speaker Joe Hackney Co-Chairs, Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations

Senator John Snow
Senator Ellie Kinnaird
Representative Alice Bordsen
Representative Jimmy Love
Co-Chairs, Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety

North Carolina General Assembly Raleigh, North Carolina 27601-1096

RE: G.S. §114-2.5; Report on Settlement Agreement for GlaxoSmithKline (Amoxil)

Dear Members:

G.S. §114-2.5 requires the Attorney General to report to the Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations and the Chairs of the Appropriations Subcommittees on Justice and Public Safety regarding all settlements and court orders which result in more than \$75,000.00 being paid to the State. Pursuant to that statute, I am writing regarding the settlement of claims for Medicaid reimbursement to the State and Federal governments in the above-referenced matter. Pursuant to federal law (42 C.F.R. § 433.320) recoveries in these cases are shared on a pro-rata basis by the State and Federal governments.

On August 30, 2006 the Attorney General reported to the General Assembly an August 10, 2006 Settlement Agreement between Smithkline Beecham Corporation, d/b/a Glaxosmithkline ("GSK") and the State of North Carolina regarding the alleged off-label marketing of the prescription drugs Zofran and Kytril. Subsequently, it was then discovered that GSK had allegedly engaged in the same conduct with respect to another of its products, Amoxil, which is an antibiotic primarily used for treating ear infections, sinusitis, and strep throat in children and is GSK's brand amoxicillin product. Particularly when this drug is purchased and administered by physicians, it is subject to the same pricing spreads, that is, significant

differences between the price that the manufacturer sells the product and the price at which Medicaid reimburses the product, that were the subject of the Zofran/Kytril settlement.

GSK assisted in the discovery and investigation of this matter. GSK agreed to settle the Amoxil issue by adding an addendum to the Zofran/Kytril settlement. On June 4, 2008, the State of North Carolina received a supplemental payment from GSK pursuant to an Addendum to the earlier GSK State Settlement and Release. Under the terms of the Addendum, the State of North Carolina recovered \$408,105.00. Of that amount, the federal government received \$259,111.69 to satisfy North Carolina's obligation to return the federal portion of Medicaid recoveries to the federal government. The North Carolina Medicaid Program received \$148,993.31 as restitution and interest.

We will be happy to respond to any questions you may have regarding this report.

Very truly yours,

Wisti Hyman
Chief of Staff

KH:kds

cc: Jean Sandaire, NCGA Fiscal Research Division Greg McLeod, NCDOJ, Legislative Counsel Nels Roseland, NCDOJ, Deputy Chief of Staff