

NDHA

North Dakota Healthcare Association

Vision

The North Dakota Healthcare Association will take an active leadership role in major healthcare issues.

Mission

The North Dakota Healthcare Association exists to advance the health status of persons served by the membership.

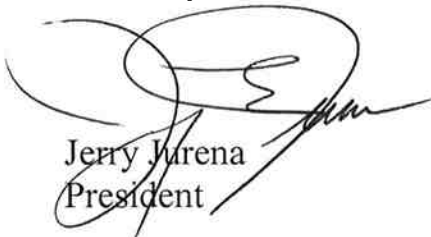
September 1, 2009

Healthcare Providers rely on Group Purchasing Organizations (GPOs) to be there for us as our trusted partners. GPOs aggregate our purchasing power and use that leverage to negotiate discounts with manufacturers on our behalf. They work for healthcare providers to contract for 'best value' in supplies and improve service quality by partnering with clinicians to evaluate products.

Recent studies demonstrate that this partnership delivers between \$36 and \$64 billion in annual savings to the nation's healthcare provider; these are savings that provide us with the price protection and cost savings necessary to devote more of our scarce resources to patients.

We urge Congress to promote proven cost cutting solutions to the health care crisis, such as GPOs, and avoid any restrictive legislation affecting GPOs that could only hurt patient care. As we approach health care reform, please know that changing the way GPOs work at this time is a step in the wrong direction.

Sincerely,



Jerry Jurena
President