MN Opioid Bill Proposes Taxation Without Representation

A Minnesota bill to tax opioids proposes taxation without representation. A government bureaucracy would determine the level of taxation, not the legislature. The state Board of Pharmacy would define a taxable unit. It could be a prescription. It could be a milligram equivalent.

In 2016, there were 3.5 million opioid prescriptions in Minnesota, which equals 2.7 billion morphine milligram equivalents. If the tax was $1.00 per prescription, that’s $3.5 million dollars, but if the tax was 1 cent per milligram equivalent, that’s $27 million. Time for a tea party if this bill passes and a state bureaucracy gets the power to set the tax.

HF 1440 (Opioid Stewardship Program), Rep. Dave Baker (R-Willmar):

Submitted Testimony on HF 1440 by CCHF to MN House HHS Reform Committee, March 1, 2018.
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