

April 14, 2014

Letter to the Editor
The Boston Globe
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Re: Judge hits state on painkiller ban

Dear Editor:

Governor Patrick's wrong-headed decision to ban Zohydro flies in the face of the due diligence done by the FDA; and this nurse and person living with chronic pain salutes Judge Zobel for bringing some common sense back to the discussion on Zohydro.

Is there an opioid abuse problem in this country? Without a doubt, but banning the sale of Zohydro isn't the way to solve it. Everyday people living with chronic pain are made to jump through more and more hoops to treat their condition all because there're those individuals who abuse opioids. Many steps can be taken to rein in such abuses, but an outright ban on Zohydro isn't one of them.

Perhaps the 2012 health crisis caused by the compounding pharmacy in Massachusetts that caused 678 illnesses and 44 deaths and the failure of his agents to properly monitor these pharmacies are at the heart of Gov. Patrick's current knee-jerk response

Judge Zobel should lift the ban and put the needs of those living with chronic pain first.

Sincerely,
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