**North Carolina Association of Pharmacists Antitrust Policy**The North Carolina Association of Pharmacists is a not-for-profit, membership organization, that helps serve the professional needs of pharmacists, pharmacy technicians and student pharmacists. NCAP shall not play a role in the competitive decisions of its members, nor in any way restrict competition among members or potential members. Instead the Association serves in various capacities to facilitate free and open discussion, the exchange of ideas, and diverse opinions, without, encouraging or sanctioning any particular business practice.The Board of Directors recognizes the possibility that the Association, and its activities could be viewed by some as an opportunity for anticompetitive conduct. Therefore, this statement supports the policy of competition served by the antitrust laws and to communicate the Association’s uncompromising policy to comply with those laws.

**Policy**To ensure that the Association and its members comply with antitrust laws, the following principles will be observed:

* The Association shall not be used for the purpose of bringing about or attempting to bring about any understanding or agreement, written or oral, formal or informal, expressed or implied, among two or more members or other competitors with regard to prices or terms and conditions of contracts for services or products. Therefore, discussions and exchanges of information about such topics will not be permitted at Association meetings or other activities.
* There will be no discussions about discouraging entry into or competition in any segment of the marketplace.
* Certain activities of the Association and its members are deemed protected from antitrust laws under the First Amendment right to petition government. The antitrust exemption for these activities, referred to as the Noerr-Pennington Doctrine, protects ethical and proper actions or discussions by members designed to influence; 1) legislation at the national, state, or local level; 2) regulatory or policy-making activities (as opposed to commercial activities) of a governmental body; or 3) decisions of judicial bodies. However, the exemption does not protect actions designed to cover-up anticompetitive conduct.
* Speakers at committees, educational meetings, or other business meetings of the Association shall be informed that they must comply with the Association’s antitrust policy in the preparation and the presentation of their remarks. Meetings will follow a written agenda approved in advance by the Association.
* Meetings will follow a written agenda; Minutes will be prepared after the meeting to provide a concise summary of important matters discussed and actions taken or conclusions reached.
* Informal discussions at the site of any Association meeting all participants are expected to observe the same standards of personal conduct as are required of the Association in its compliance.