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Health and Government
Operations Committee



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THE MARYLAND HOUSE OF DELEGATES
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**TESTIMONY FOR HEALTH AND GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
COMMITTEE**

CHAIR SHANE PENDERGRASS
VICE CHAIR JOSELINE PENA-MELNYK

**HOUSE BILL 885: PHARMACY BENEFITS MANAGERS – DUTIES AND
OBLIGATIONS**

FEBRUARY 27, 2020

POSITION: SUPPORT

Good Afternoon Chairman Pendergrass and Vice Chair Pena-Melnyk. I am here today to ask for your favorable report on HB 885 – Pharmacy Benefits Managers – Duties and Obligations. This bill, which Delegate Kipke and I have worked on together, is an effort to make explicit the obligation of Pharmacy Benefit Managers to prioritize the interests of the pharmacies they serve.

As you will hear in much of the testimony today, the current system of prescription drug benefit plans is not working. As stated in written testimony from a pharmacy owner in my district, PBM profits continue to rise, while community pharmacies like Craig’s Drug Store in Cambridge are on an unsustainable path that will force them to close their doors if the process is not changed.

We cannot allow small pharmacies to continue to be taken advantage of, and this bill is a step in that direction. Thank you again, and I urge a favorable report on HB 885.