

TESTIMONY BY THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY BOARD

HB 1100 - PDAB - Meetings, Legal Advisor, and Technical Changes

Legislation from the 2019 Session of the General Assembly established a Prescription Drug Affordability Board in Maryland (HB 768). The Board is tasked with evaluating expensive drugs and recommending appropriate methods for addressing the increasing cost of pharmaceuticals. It is the first such program in the nation. The following is an update on the progress towards implementing the recent legislation.

- HB 1100-Prescription Drug Affordability Board and Meetings, Legal Advisor and Technical Changes proposes altering the frequency at which PDAB is required to meet, repealing that the Board hire general counsel, and providing that the Attorney General is the legal advisor for the Board.
- PDAB would like to change the number of meetings from every six (6) weeks to four (4) times per year.
- PDAB would also like to hire an assistant attorney general to give effective legal advice and counsel.
- We have an amendment asking you to allow the PDAB to delay five of the seven reports found in HB 768.

Please support HB 1100