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March 8, 2022

To: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass
Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee

From: The Office of the Attorney General's Health Education and Advocacy Unit

Re: House Bill 1006 (Pharmacy Benefits Managers – Network Adequacy, Credentialing, and Reimbursement): Oppose

The Office of the Attorney General's Health Education and Advocacy Unit (HEAU) opposes House Bill 1014 because it would allow a network pharmacy to decline to dispense a prescription drug to an enrollee if the health benefit plan reimbursement for the prescription drug is less than the pharmacy's acquisition cost. Enrollees should not be put in the middle of disputes between network pharmacies and health benefit plans when dispute resolution remedies are available under Title 15, Subtitle 16 of the Insurance Article, especially when the effect is to deny enrollees access to medically necessary prescription drugs.

We urge an unfavorable report from the committee.

cc: Delegate Kipke, Sponsor