



TESTIMONY FOR SB0398
Health Insurance - Reimbursement and Use of Specific Pharmacies and
Dispensaries - Prohibitions

Bill Sponsor: Senator Lam

Committee: Finance

Organization Submitting: Maryland Legislative Coalition

Person Submitting: Cecilia Plante, co-chair

Position: FAVORABLE

I am submitting this testimony in favor of SB0398 on behalf of the Maryland Legislative Coalition. The Maryland Legislative Coalition is an association of individuals and grassroots groups with members in every district in the state. We have over 30,000 members across the state.

Our health care system, particularly the provision of prescription drugs, is full of corruption and price gouging. The big health care providers prey upon their members by moving certain drugs around in their formulary to achieve greater profits, forcing members to use certain drugs by removing options from the formulary, and ensuring that prescriptions can only be purchased from in-network, or participating pharmacies.

None of this benefits the residents in Maryland. It is designed to benefit the insurance companies and health care providers only.

Our members thank Senator Lam for bringing this bill and ensuring that insurance companies and health care providers cannot force members to get their prescriptions from certain suppliers. We applaud this effort and strongly support this bill. Now, if we could just stop the price gouging and the formulary games....

The Maryland Legislative Coalition supports this bill and we recommend a **FAVORABLE** report in Committee.