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February 14, 2023

**TO:** The Honorable Melony Griffith, Chair  
Senate Finance Committee

**FROM:** Office of the Attorney General, Health Education and Advocacy Unit

**RE:** SB0398 – Reimbursement and Use of Specific Pharmacies and  
Dispensaries

The Office of the Attorney General's Health Education and Advocacy Unit (HEAU) supports SB 398 which amends the ability of insurers to require a subscriber or member to obtain a covered specialty drug from a designated pharmacy or dispensary and instead allows the insurer to recommend where to obtain the covered specialty drug, leaving the ultimate selection up to the member. In addition, it prohibits the insurer from denying or limiting the claim from a non-recommended dispenser if the chosen dispenser meets the requirements imposed on recommended dispensers. The bill also requires the insurer to allow the selected pharmacy or dispensary to participate as a contract provider if it agrees to meet the issuer's contract terms.

Maryland is one of many states that have enacted legislation in recent years to curb prescription drug reimbursement practices by PBMs that make money on the spread between the rates at which they reimburse pharmacies and the drug prices they charge health plans, among other ways. This bill continues our State's effort to support consumer choice and improve specialty drug access while providing greater opportunities for cost-savings for treatments of complex medical conditions.

We urge the Committee to give SB 398 a favorable report.

cc: Sponsors, [clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us](mailto:clarence.lam@senate.state.md.us) and [brian.feldman@senate.state.md.us](mailto:brian.feldman@senate.state.md.us)