



MARYLAND
Prescription Drug Affordability Board

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January 31, 2023

The Honorable Joseline Peña-Melnyk
Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee
Room 241, Taylor House Office Building
6 Bladen Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

RE: HB 279/SB202 – Prescription Drug Affordability Board - Upper Payment Limits – Letter of Support

Dear Chair Peña-Melnyk:

The Maryland Prescription Drug Affordability Board writes in support of HB 279.

Ensuring that prescription drugs are accessible and affordable remains a top priority for state and federal policy makers. In 2022, six out of ten Americans reported taking prescription drugs. Yet three in ten adults reported not taking their medicines as prescribed because of cost.¹

In creating the first-in-the-nation Prescription Drug Affordability Board, Maryland led the country in devising a new approach to understanding and addressing the problem of drug affordability. This legislation will enable the Prescription Drug Affordability Board to continue its important work to make prescription drugs more affordable for Marylanders through the exploration of Upper Payment Limits.

Thank you for your consideration of this important legislation. If you have any questions, please contact Andrew York at (410) 804-0251 or andrew.york@maryland.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrew York", is written over a horizontal line.

Andrew York
Executive Director
Maryland Prescription Drug Affordability Board

¹ Hamel L, Lopes L, Kirzinger A, et. al. Public Opinion on Prescription Drugs and Their Prices. Kaiser Family Foundation. October 20, 2022.
<https://www.kff.org/health-costs/poll-finding/public-opinion-on-prescription-drugs-and-their-prices> Last Accessed: 1/31/2023