

My name is Brandi Chane with Pharmacists United for Truth and Transparency writing in opposition to SB0357.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. While this bill aims to lower drug prices, it fails to address key issues that will have **devastating consequences for pharmacies and the patients they serve**. Without addressing **wholesaler pricing, administrative burdens, patient access, and reimbursement challenges**, this bill risks doing more harm than good.

This bill does not regulate **wholesaler pricing** nor does it regulate PBM reimbursement practices. There is no infrastructure in this bill to ensure a pharmacy can purchase these drugs under the UPL. **This bill does nothing to ensure that pharmacies are reimbursed fairly by a PBM**, meaning many will be forced to fill prescriptions at a loss. When pharmacies cannot sustain these financial losses, **they are forced to reduce services, limit drug inventory, or close their doors altogether**.

Beyond financial strain, this bill adds **new administrative burdens on pharmacies**, including increased processing time and a longer drug procurement process if medications aren't available at the designated UPL. Community pharmacies already struggle with burdensome PBM complexities like prior authorizations and clawbacks. More red tape means **less time for pharmacists to care for patients**, further straining already overwhelmed healthcare providers.

For patients, this bill **does not directly lower out-of-pocket costs** and may **reduce access to essential medications**. It does not control insurance copays, deductible costs, or premiums.

If pharmacies close due to unsustainable pricing and reimbursement policies, patients—especially in rural and underserved areas—**will have to travel farther, wait longer, and may struggle to get the medications they need**. A law designed to make medications more affordable should not make them harder to access.

We all support efforts to lower drug prices, but **this bill ignores the full picture**. By failing to address **wholesaler pricing, reimbursement fairness, and administrative burdens**, it risks putting pharmacies out of business and **leaving patients with fewer options, not more**. We need real solutions that protect both affordability **and access**—because a lower price means nothing if the medication isn't there when a patient needs it.

Thank you.

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