

February 19, 2025

The Honorable Pamela Beidle
Chair, Senate Finance Committee
3 East Miller Senate Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: SB 306 - Worker's Compensation - Prescription Drug and Pharmaceutical Services -
Reimbursements - OPPOSE

Dear Chair Beidle, Vice Chair Hayes and members of the Senate Finance Committee:

My name is Veronica Roderick and on March 4, 2012, I was a Resident Assistant/Med Tech and involved in a work-related incident, which resulted in the saving of four people's lives, including myself. I sustained trauma to my neck, back, bilateral shoulders and bilateral ulnar nerves. I have undergone two surgeries and am awaiting three, possibly four, additional procedures, including a total shoulder replacement, in addition to loss of use of one of my arms. These injuries have left me disabled and no longer able to work.

Since my injury, I have been denied the majority of monetary compensation, physical treatment, and medications. Resulting in loss of my home of 23 years to foreclosure, filing bankruptcy and indebted to personal loans. I had to place surgeries on my BCBS, friends paid for me to have transportation to physical therapy after surgery, along with paying for all my medications. All this while I was also fighting cancer.

I was at the "end of my rope." I needed these meds to get a small amount of relief and give me the ability to function just enough to manage some ADL, for a reasonable quality of life. I now have Rescue Meds; I no longer have to wonder how to get my medications. If I do not get the medical treatments and medications needed, I could end up being wheelchair bound. To some this is a fight for repayment, percentage of cost/reimbursement(s) and other politics, but to us, the injured worker and our loved ones, the fight is a matter of life, to which holds no price that can ever be paid.

The reimbursement rates being proposed are unreasonable with the use of an acquisition cost index and will prevent access to critical healthcare for the injured workers.

I pray that you or others standing in position not only show mercy but extend justice towards us.

Sincerely,

Veronica Roderick

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