

The Path to Ensuring Patient Access in Oregon

Oregon State Pharmacy Association humbly requests your sponsorship of LC 2723.

Profiteering by a handful of multi-national corporations that control 80%+ of the insurance market has devastated access to pharmacies and care in Oregon. The CBO says they're bilking Americans; FTC has sued the top 3 PBMs; Congress has not acted.

State Legislators are the last line of defense for patients.

Pharmacists from across Oregon have identified **7 POLICY PILLARS** that are essential to ensure continued access to pharmacy care.

“Spread Pricing” Ban	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Issue: Spread pricing allows PBMs to charge health plans more and reimburse pharmacies less, keeping the difference as profit.○ Solution: Prohibit the practice of spread pricing in Oregon to eliminate excessive spending not directed to patient care.
Reimbursement Restructuring	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Issue: Pharmacies are routinely reimbursed below the cost of acquiring and dispensing medications.○ Solution: Establish a minimum reimbursement rate + dispensing fee to keep staff paid, lights on and maintain adequate stock.
Access Anywhere	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Issue: Rigorous and complex in-network requirements limit patient access to pharmacies, especially in rural communities.○ Solution: Simplify the requirements for pharmacies to be in-network, thereby expanding patient access.
Equitable Terms	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Issue: Preferential terms for PBM-owned pharmacies and patient steering undermine competition and therefore access.○ Solution: Ban preferential terms based on affiliation and prohibit practices that steer patients to specific pharmacies.
Uniform Protections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Issue: Lack of uniform regulations for all insurance plans, all Oregonians, will lead to a failure of care for certain individuals.○ Solution: Applying PBM regulations uniformly for all plans will leverage common protections for pharmacies and all patients.
Prohibitions on Retaliation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Issue: PBMs often impose mandates that force pharmacies to operate at a loss, risking closures and reduced access.○ Solution: Implement protections against retaliatory practices by PBMs that jeopardize the viability of pharmacies.
Good-Faith Business Practices	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Issue: Prioritizing profits, PBM administrative and contractual practices lead to treatment of pharmacies that jeopardize care.○ Solution: Mandate good-faith practices, promoting transparency, honesty, and fairness in all business dealings.

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