

Dear Illinois Senator,

I am asking for your support on two bills, **HB 4548** and **SB 2790**. These bills are to support independent pharmacies in Illinois and reform the auditing process for Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs). PBMs are the middlemen between the companies that produce medications and insurance companies that pay for prescriptions. PBMs are the biggest influence on rising cost of meds, and they benefit off of the rising costs.

HB 4548

This bill addresses commercial insurance and disrupts the current PBM business model that steals money from Patients, Payors, Drug Companies, and Pharmacies. This bill mandates that patients can choose their pharmacy and not be financially penalized for doing so. It requires PBMs to provide transparency on rebates they receive from drug companies and ensure they are passed to patients or to plan sponsor.

SB 2790

This bill addresses Medicaid and the healthcare providers that service Medicaid Beneficiaries. SR 792 mandated Illinois Auditor General to audit the money flow from HFS to MCOs to PBMs to Pharmacies. The audit period was 2 years. The result of the audit uncovered PBMs kept \$200 million they received from the MCOs that was not paid to local pharmacies.

This bill does not raise costs to the State. It prevents the PBMs from stealing money from independent pharmacies, which has resulted in pharmacy closures. Every time we allow health insurers and/or PBMs to get involved in paying for healthcare, they get richer while the quality of healthcare decreases.

Please support our communities and help put an end to this trend. Keep our local businesses alive, money in our pockets, and block corporate businesses from benefiting from our degrading healthcare. To learn more visit www.Pharmacies-For-Illinois.com.