



February 7, 2024

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
418 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
House Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
2433 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressional Leaders,

For pharmacists and pharmacies serving patients and communities throughout the nation, we urge Congress to enact necessary pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) reforms without delay to reduce Americans' prescription drug costs and to sustain health care access.

Methodically, and with bipartisan and overwhelming support, PBM reforms to protect Americans in Medicare and Medicaid have advanced in the U.S. Senate and U.S. House of Representatives.

Among the essential reforms advanced in the 118th Congress are:

- **Medicaid managed care pharmacy payment reform and a ban on spread pricing;**
- **defining and enforcing reasonable and relevant Medicare Part D pharmacy contract terms; and**
- **establishing relevant, standardized and transparent pharmacy quality measurements in Medicare Part D.**

On December 14, 2023, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services wrote to PBMs and plans: "We are hearing an increasing number of concerns about certain practices by some plans and [PBMs] that threaten the sustainability of many pharmacies, impede access to care, and put increased burden on health care providers."

Be aware, as of January 2024 the harmful and aggressive tactics of some PBMs affecting Americans and their pharmacists and pharmacies seem to have gotten even worse. Many of our members report that some PBMs now are reimbursing pharmacies even further below the pharmacies' cost for the prescriptions that they fill – especially in Medicare.

Americans deserve and expect protection from inflated prescription drug costs, from forced pharmacy closures, and from barriers to their pharmacy of choice that result from PBM tactics. Please act now: Congress must not delay these crucial reforms in Medicare and Medicaid.

Sincerely,

National Association of Chain Drug Stores
National Community Pharmacists Association
FMI - The Food Industry Association

National Grocers Association
American Pharmacists Association
National Association of Specialty Pharmacy

cc: Members of the 118th Congress