



The Honorable Rachel Prusak
Chair, House Health Care Committee
900 Court St. NE
Salem, Oregon 97301

March 31, 2021

Chair Prusak and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Northwest Grocery Association (NWGA) and our community pharmacies, I encourage you to SUPPORT HB 2648. This bill would allow consumers in Oregon to purchase medicines containing pseudoephedrine (PSE) without a prescription. NWGA supports ensuring Americans have access to the medications that they need without undue costs or burden. Oregon is currently the only state that requires a prescription to purchase common cold and allergy medicines containing PSE. This requirement is a significant cost and inconvenience for families who are forced to take time from work to receive a prescription from the doctor. The current prescription requirement makes it more expensive, in terms of time and money, for cold and allergy sufferers to get relief. Please end the prescription requirement and make health care more affordable.

HB 2648 seems to be a good solution to finally allow patient access to some of the most popular brand name relief medications like Mucinex D, Sudafed, Claritin D, Allegra D, Zyrtec D, and several others while still preventing PSE abuse. It will keep PSE products behind the pharmacy counter and use the National Precursor Log Exchange (NPLEx) that will allow retailers to block the sales of medicines containing PSE when customers go over their legal limit. Now, 37 other states have adopted NPLEx and they have constantly seen declining domestic meth production.

I urge the passage of HB 2648.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shawn Miller". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Shawn Miller