

Hello, My name is Leah Bishop, and I am pharmacist and owner of Drug Mart Pharmacy in La Pine. I am writing in support of House Bill 2462, which would require pharmacy benefit managers to amend contracts with community pharmacies to account for costs incurred from new taxes. Or you can vote to exempt pharmacies from the corporate activity tax altogether.

Community pharmacies have been uniquely impacted by the corporate activity tax. Unlike other businesses, the price paid by the consumer is determined by a pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) or other third-party insurance payer, and not by the pharmacy itself. All PBMs and insurance companies require that a pharmacy charge the amount outlined in the contract (i.e., deductible, copayment, coinsurance), and explicitly prohibit additional amounts to be passed onto the consumer. We cannot change a patient's copay.

The financial viability for many community pharmacies is precarious and absorbing the corporate activity tax is simply not an option. Here in La Pine, not only does our community pharmacy provide medications, but it is a huge part in ensuring our community's health and one of our community's major employers. Who do I terminate in order to pay for this tax?

This bill provides a mechanism to maintain the Student Success Fund, while simultaneously addressing the business needs of community pharmacies. I urge you to support HB 2462.

Thank you for your time and I welcome any additional questions you might have.

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