

Submitter: Patrick Hubbell

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB3013

My name is Pat Hubbell. I own Brooklyn Pharmacy in Portland, OR.

Facts:

1. Do not be fooled by reimbursement percentages. For example: Reimbursement of \$0.10 increased to \$1.00 is 1000% increase. However, it is still \$1.00. It costs me \$10/prescription just to break even.
2. Independent retail pharmacy is not lucrative. Independent pharmacy average \$0 to \$50,000/year in profit. That's not profitable in today's world. Or worse, we close our doors because we run ourselves into the ground.
3. Staff at independent pharmacies are under tremendous strains to maintain pharmaceutical care. Burnout is high. Care becomes fleeting.
4. We are forced to fill prescriptions at a loss with contracts that we have no control over.
5. Filling more prescriptions for more people is not a successful business plan. It usually leads to closure of pharmacy.
6. Retail pharmacy at larger chains is a machine with little to no empathy, little to no patient contact and horribly understaffed (to maintain some semblance of profitability).

The complexity of pharmacy is horribly unique. I would love to own more pharmacies across the state of Oregon and provide superior pharmaceutical care, BUT I WON'T. Pharmaceutical care requires knowledgeable, caring, empathetic, community active staff. There simply is not a pharmacy business model that allows for PHARMACEUTICAL CARE and to maintain business viability with the current pharmacy environment.

Pharmacists, in general, are not a vocal lot. We are highly trained professionals that are ready to provide superior pharmaceutical care. The environment we are being subjected to is barren of substance. The state board writes more regulations in an attempt to curb this lack of care, but to no avail because the business trend is to churn and burn. This intersection is breeding substandard care and overwhelming oversight.

Thank you,

Pat Hubbell, RPH

Owner of Brooklyn Pharmacy

Portland, OR