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On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

Measure: HB3013

BOTTOM LINE: DEFINE HEALTHCARE

Pharmacy has definitely changed over the years (graduated in 1989). The way that pharmacy is now lead, it is not about healthcare. It is about shrinking the returns from the pharmacies, especially the independent pharmacies. It is faster, more tasks required, less help, and yet each corporate pharmacy states they care about their patients. Their actions do not show they care. Healthcare is about living a healthy lifestyle to avoid chronic diseases for employees and patients. However, the stress put on pharmacy staff has increased stress, creating a life ending in cardiovascular disease, gastrointestinal issues, decreased immunity, and so much more. The PBM's crunching down on pharmacies has got to stop. The fact that you can hire a company to cut so much and that it is a profit to pay them to slide the rug from under their foundation, is ridiculous. That is like me a farmer docking money from a farmhand's paycheck for not plowing a perfect line like a robot. Oneday, when there are no independent pharmacies, then the monopoly will find out that they will come up short in serving the greater good of their communities. The only way capitalism works is if it has moral ethics from which it yields it's power.

The example of one small pharmacy chain switching to Walgreens, and discontinuing their service, created a catastrophe for many large chains that work on minimal staffing. In fact Ontario Riteaid had so many people quit, that they were down 1 pharmacist, 1 technician, and 1 cashier. This is a very busy pharmacy and that crushed them. They were over 2 weeks behind in filling. If healthcare is so important, then there needs to be a different approach that is indicative of the importance of healthcare. PBM's coming in to bottom line pharmacies is not indicative in making healthcare important.

Independent pharmacies provide services that support the most helpless with bubble packaging, the child dosing or pet medicine that is compounded, personal patient education for supplements not found in chain drug stores, offer vaccination support that might overwhelm the chain stores like during Covid, and so much more.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL PHARMACY!!