

From the Office of Representative Rob Nosse, HD-42 *Sen J.*

Support HB 2385 to hold drug companies accountable so Oregonians can keep accessing the medications they need.

The 340B program allows safety-net hospitals and federally qualified health centers to purchase outpatient medications at discounted prices from pharmaceutical manufacturers, enabling them to expand access to care and provide affordable medications to low-income and underinsured patients by stretching scarce federal resources to reach more people. High deductible plans, high co-pays, and Medicare prescription drug costs, and pharmacy access often restrict patients' access to lifesaving medications. The 340B program provides eligible patients with these medications at a much lower cost. For Medicaid patients who pay nothing out of pocket for prescription drugs, the very providers they see are often funded with savings from the 340B program.

Oregonians rely on contract pharmacies to get the medications they need, especially in rural areas

These pharmacies eliminate the need for patients to travel long distances by offering local or mail-order options. Even facilities with in-house pharmacies depend on contract pharmacies to provide specialty medications they cannot stock, helping provide high-quality care for their communities.

The problem

Drug companies are restricting which pharmacies can fill prescriptions for patients under the 340B drug pricing program.

How HB 2385 helps

Passage of HB 2385 restores the 340B program to operating as it has for more than 30 years, before drug companies imposed arbitrary restrictions via contract on which pharmacies safety-net hospitals and federally qualified health centers can contract with. It restores funding that critical access hospitals and health centers rely on to improve access to necessary health care for low-income Oregonians – at no cost to Oregon's taxpayers.

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