

March 11, 2025

The Honorable Rob Nosse, Chair
House Committee on Behavioral Health & Health Care

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Chair Nosse, Members of the Committee:

Salem Health Hospitals and Clinics is a nurse-led organization founded by community members over 125 years ago. Salem Hospital, a level II trauma center just a few blocks from the Capitol, and Salem Health West Valley Hospital, a critical access hospital in Dallas, both participate in the 340B program. I'm pleased to write today in support of House Bill 2057.

340B is a federal program that allows safety-net providers serving high proportions of low-income and uninsured people to purchase outpatient prescription drugs at discounted prices. Patients of 340B covered entities benefit from access to care funded by savings realized through this program.

One of the hallmarks of the 340B program is the simple principles on which it is built. To "stretch scarce federal resources as far as possible, reaching more eligible patients and providing more comprehensive services." However, ensuring program integrity means that covered entities must comply with a host of federal statutes and regulations.

HB 2057 will simplify the claims aspect of 340B for covered entities, removing any requirements for modifiers to identify the claim as 340B related. This will ensure that all transactions are treated equitably in the claims process.

Thank you for your consideration of this bill. I urge your support of HB 2057.

Sincerely,

Andrew J. Sowles
Andrew J. Sowles, PharmD
Director, Ambulatory Care Pharmacy