



SEIU Oregon State Council Testimony in Support of SB1528A: Expanding Annual Reporting Requirements for Prescription Drug Patient Assistance Programs

March 2, 2026

To: House Committee on Rules

Fr: Matt Swanson, SEIU Oregon State Council

Re: Support for SB 1528A

On behalf of the SEIU State Council, which represents thousands of Oregon workers who depend on affordable healthcare, we support expanding annual reporting requirements for patient assistance programs funded or maintained by prescription drug manufacturers.

Patient assistance programs can provide short-term relief for individual consumers, but evidence shows they also drive increased use of expensive brand name drugs by reducing competition from lower cost generics and therapeutic alternatives. While some patients may pay less at the pharmacy counter, insurers often pay more overall — contributing to higher insurance premiums for workers, employers, and public programs.

Under current law, only manufacturers that submit annual price increase reports are required to disclose information about patient assistance programs. As a result, Oregon collected data on just 33 programs from 14 manufacturers in 2024, despite estimates that roughly 200 such programs are available to Oregonians. This limited reporting does not provide sufficient information to understand how these programs affect prescribing patterns, drug spending, or insurance premiums.

Comprehensive reporting would significantly improve transparency for consumers and legislators and provide the data necessary for evidence-based decisions on prescription drug affordability. For these reasons, SEIU Oregon urges the Legislature to pass SB1528A and continue Oregon's leadership on prescription drug transparency and affordability.

Thank you,

Matt Swanson

SEIU Oregon State Council