



SUPPORT SB 402 - STAND UP FOR SMALL BUSINESS IN OREGON

In a world where the delivery of cost-effective patient care is king, Oregon's local, community based pharmacists get the squeeze.

The large, complex pharmacy corporations, Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs), that manage drug benefits for nearly 95% of Americans who have drug coverage - including plans that are managed by states, funded by tax-dollars - remain virtually unregulated when it comes to negotiations with pharmacies and pharmacists.

It is time to level the playing field in Oregon.

MAC pricing is a particular hurdle to community-based pharmacists keeping their doors open and their businesses viable. Any pharmacy that would like to participate in a drug-coverage network is required to accept the Maximum Allowable Cost (MAC) Pricing provision(s) put forward by the PBM. The unfortunately reality due to their lack of oversight means that there is no standard within this enormous industry for the methodology or criteria that any given PBM would use to place a drug or series of drugs onto the MAC List.

In other words, the pharmacist is left in the dark as to what kind of total revenue-projections they can expect when they are signing on the dotted line.

There is no way for a pharmacy to make a decision on whether they can accept these ever changing rates because the corporation that they are supposed to view as a business partner will not - and does not have to legally - disclose their methodology or what those maximum costs are. SB 402 will help provide this standardization of criteria for how a product might be picked for the MAC List. *This is going to be critical to keeping the doors of community based pharmacies open, allowing rural Oregonians to access their meds.*

Please support SB 402 so that the market can function effectively.

Pharmacies should not be expected to bet their business on a blind deal.