



Wellpartner®

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Portland, Oregon 97224

March 14, 2013
Representative Mitch Greenlick, Chair
House Committee on Health Care
900 Court St. NE, H-493
Salem, OR 97301

Re: HB 2123 – Support

Dear Representative Greenlick,

I am writing to you in support of House Bill 2123, a measure to register and regulate pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) and limit egregious pharmacy audit practices while preserving safeguards for patient safety and against fraud and abuse. As a contract pharmacy services provider for the Oregon safety net and a mail order pharmacy for Oregon Medicaid and several Oregon CCOs, Wellpartner serves thousands of the most vulnerable Oregonians and partners with Oregon safety net hospitals, clinics, and community pharmacies. We also employ over fifty people from our location in Portland (District 35). As an employee of Wellpartner, I served on the House Interim PBM Work Group for this bill and strongly support the -1 amendments proposed by the coalition that includes the Oregon State Pharmacy Association, the Oregon Society of Health-System Pharmacists and local community pharmacies.

In particular, we support the provisions to place fair constraints on PBM audit practices, to establish reasonable audit guidelines and appeals processes, and to prevent arbitrary, capricious, and expensive audits that increase operating costs and divert resources from patient care without advancing the payers' legitimate interests in patient safety and efficient pharmacy payment.

We thank you and the members of the House Committee on Health Care, and Representative Jim Thompson in particular, for your continued support of local community pharmacies and the preservation of patient access to efficient and clinically effective pharmacy care.

To that end, we join our pharmacy coalition partners in respectfully requesting your support of HB 2123-1.

Sincerely,

Michael Sullivan
Senior Director, Government Programs and Policy
Wellpartner, Inc.