



Our Vision: No Life Limited by Pain

May 11, 2015

Senate Committee on Health Care
Mitch Greenlick, Chair
Oregon House of Representatives
Salem, Oregon

RE: SB 71

Dear Representative Greenlick and Members of the Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the American Academy of Pain Management to offer amendments to SB 71, a bill that would require pharmacies to electronically report prescription monitoring program information to the Oregon Health Authority no later than 72 hours after dispensing the prescription medication. While we support the bill's efforts to improve patient care and public safety by reducing the time frame in which pharmacies must report PMP information, we would encourage you to consider a 24 hour mandate in place of the currently proposed 72 hour mandate.

Prescription monitoring programs work to their fullest potential when they are used to their fullest. As healthcare delivery tools, PMPs can provide three benefits: (1) Reassurance that patients are using controlled substances as prescribed, allowing providers to prescribe and dispense as needed with less anxiety; (2) Identification of behaviors suggestive of a substance abuse problem, leading providers to more thoroughly assess patients and obtain appropriate treatment where indicated; and (3) Provision of a complete record of a patient's controlled substance prescribing history, enhancing patient safety by enabling a provider to avoid potentially deadly combinations of medications.¹ As law enforcement tools, PMPs help to put a stop to the diversion of prescription medications. To best achieve all of these objectives, the PMP must contain relevant data, reported in as timely a manner as possible.

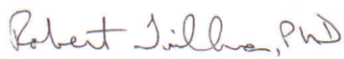
If SB 71 were to pass as written, pharmacies would have up to three days to report prescription information to Oregon's PMP. However, most PMPs across the country are trending toward requiring daily reporting, and one state, Oklahoma, has instituted point-of-sale reporting. Daily reporting is easily complied with by pharmacies, as most pharmacies upload their prescription data to insurance companies every day and PMP data can be uploaded at the same. Thus, we see no practical barrier to requiring daily reporting of PMP data in order to best protect the public health and welfare. Most of the states currently requiring daily reporting were able to transition directly to that standard from weekly reporting without encountering significant challenges.

We urge you to amend SB 71 to require that pharmacies upload prescription data to the prescription monitoring program no more than 24 hours after dispensation of the medication. I am happy to discuss

this issue with you if necessary. Please feel free to contact me by email at btwillman@aapainmanage.org, or by telephone at 209-533-9750, ext. 110.

About the Academy: The American Academy of Pain Management is the premier organization for all clinicians who care for people with pain. It is the largest pain management organization in the nation and the only one that embraces, as part of its mission statement, an integrative model of care, which: is patient-centered; considers the whole person; encourages healthful lifestyle changes as part of the first line of treatment to restore wellness; is evidence-based; brings together all appropriate therapeutic approaches to reduce pain and achieve optimal health and healing; and, encourages a team approach.

Sincerely yours,



Robert Twillman, Ph.D., FAPM
Executive Director
American Academy of Pain Management

Cc: Senator Laurie Monnes Anderson

¹ Twillman, R., PAINS Project (2013). *Prescription Monitoring Programs*. (Policy brief 2). Retrieved from http://www.painsproject.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/pains_policy_brief_2.pdf