

SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

SB 844

Relating to the price of prescription drugs

To: Ways and Means Full Committee
From: Human Services Subcommittee
Carrier: Representative Nosse

SB 844 establishes the Prescription Drug Affordability Board in the Department of Consumer and Business Services to protect the healthcare system from the high cost of prescription drugs. DCBS is to appoint an executive director and provide staff support to the Board.

The Board is directed to identify and conduct affordability reviews for prescription drug products. The Board may establish upper payment limits for a drug if it has led or will lead to affordability issues or to health inequities for communities of color. The Board is to report to the Legislative Assembly annually on price trends, products reviewed, and recommendations to make prescription drugs more affordable. The Board is also to conduct an annual study on the operation of the U.S. market for generic drugs and report their findings.

This measure also establishes a 26-member Prescription Drug Affordability Stakeholder Council to provide input to the Prescription Drug Affordability Board.

The Board is to be financial solvent through an assessed fee paid for by the prescription drug manufacturers. Startup costs will require a General Fund appropriation and the Board is to reimburse this money without interest when sufficient fee revenue is available, but no later than June 30, 2023.

The fiscal impact of this measure is \$1,786,192 General Fund with 6 positions (5.26 FTE).

The Human Services Subcommittee recommends SB 844 be amended by the -A9 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.