



House Committee on Rules

Testimony in Support of SB 1528 A-Eng.

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March 2, 2026

AARP is pleased to support SB 1528 A-Eng. AARP is the nation's largest nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to empowering Americans 50+ to choose how they live as they age. AARP Oregon advocates on issues important to our more than 500,000 Oregon members with a focus on health security, financial resilience and livable communities.

SB 1528 A-Eng. advances key AARP principles of health security and drug price transparency.

Patient assistance programs are often presented as a lifeline for those struggling with the high price of prescription drugs. By providing financial support or free medications, these programs can dramatically reduce, or even eliminate, the out-of-pocket costs that many patients face. However, these programs can mask the underlying cost of medication, making prices appear more affordable while keeping list prices high.

Without clear and public information about these programs, it is difficult for patients, providers, policymakers, and advocates to understand if patient assistance is truly lowering costs or simply shifting them elsewhere such as increased premiums for everyone.

SB 1528 A-Eng. will provide us with greater transparency. By expanding the drug manufacturer annual reporting requirements to include all patient assistance program, we can better ensure that these programs fulfill their promise to lower medication costs for those in need, rather than obscuring pricing practices or restricting access.

We urge this committee to support SB 1528 A-Eng.