
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE ADMINISTRATOR OF THE STATE HEALTH PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT AGENCY TO CONVENE A PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGER WORKING GROUP TO DETERMINE THE BEST POLICIES TO LOWER DRUG COSTS FOR PATIENT CONSUMERS AND INCREASE ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE.

1 WHEREAS, community pharmacies remain the most accessible
2 health care locations, servicing remote and underserved
3 communities with hours that often extend beyond those of other
4 health care offices; and

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6 WHEREAS, medication price transparency and the reduction of
7 medication costs are priorities of this body; and

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9 WHEREAS, over the past decade, the use of pharmacy benefit
10 managers, who serve as the intermediary between pharmacies and
11 insurance companies, has increased; and

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13 WHEREAS, other states have enacted a wide range of policies
14 related to pharmacy benefit managers; and

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16 WHEREAS, Senate Bill No. 1509, introduced in the Regular
17 Session of 2025, proposes to require pharmacy benefit managers
18 and health insurers to pass on rebate savings to patient
19 consumers to essentially create a reimbursement rate floor for,
20 and prohibit spread pricing of, prescription drugs; now,
21 therefore,

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23 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
24 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2025, the
25 House of Representatives concurring, that the Administrator of
26 the State Health Planning and Development Agency is requested to
27 convene a Pharmacy Benefit Manager Working Group to determine



1 the best policies to lower drug costs for patient consumers and
2 increase access to health care; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Administrator of the State
5 Health Planning and Development Agency, or the Administrator's
6 designee, is requested to serve as chairperson of the Pharmacy
7 Benefit Manager Working Group and to invite the following
8 members to participate in the Working Group:

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- 10 (1) A representative from the Insurance Division of the
11 Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs;
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- 13 (2) A representative from the Department of the Attorney
14 General;
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- 16 (3) A representative from the Med-QUEST Division of the
17 Department of Human Services;
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- 19 (4) A representative from the Board of Pharmacy;
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- 21 (5) A representative from the Hawaii Pharmacists
22 Association;
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- 24 (6) A representative from the National Community
25 Pharmacists Association;
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- 27 (7) A representative from the Hawaii Association of Health
28 Plans;
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- 30 (8) Two representatives from independent community
31 pharmacies;
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- 33 (9) Two representatives from unaffiliated pharmacies;
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- 35 (10) Two representatives from the pharmacy benefit manager
36 industry; and
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- 38 (11) One representative from the pharmacy benefit manager
39 trade association; and
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1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Pharmacy Benefit Manager
2 Working Group is requested to evaluate the following priority
3 areas:

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5 (1) The appropriate state agency to oversee PBM practices;
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7 (2) PBM reporting requirements and intervals;
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9 (3) Fair pharmacy audit procedures; and
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11 (4) Protections from medication under-reimbursements; and
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13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in conducting its evaluation,
14 the Pharmacy Benefit Manager Working Group is requested not to
15 seek or request information that is proprietary, would be
16 considered a trade secret, is protected by the Health Insurance
17 Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, or would violate the
18 Freedom of Information Act or any other federal or state law;
19 and
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21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Pharmacy Benefit Manager
22 Working Group is requested to submit a report of its findings
23 and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
24 Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
25 the Regular Session of 2026; and
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27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
28 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce
29 and Consumer Affairs, Attorney General, Director of Human
30 Services, Administrator of the State Health Planning and
31 Development Agency, Insurance Commissioner, Administrator of the
32 Med-QUEST Division of the Department of Human Services, and
33 Chair of the Board of Pharmacy.

