NEW POLL SHOWS SUPPORT FOR REGULATING PBMS

Pharmacy benefit managers, or PBMs, are middlemen health insurance companies that influence what consumers pay for medicines by controlling formulary lists and setting prices. Recent national polling shows that the overwhelming majority of likely voters support strong policies that would require PBMs to provide value and lower drug costs. Moreover, respondents are increasingly likely to vote for a candidate who also supports these regulations.

The nationwide poll, conducted by the bipartisan polling team of Lake Research Partners and Bellwether Research, found that:

- 84% of likely voters say it’s important or very important to have rules that require PBMs to provide value and lower drug costs for consumers.
- 73% say regulating PBMs should be a high or top priority for Congress and their state legislatures.
- 72% of respondents say they are more or much more likely to vote for a candidate who supports regulating PBMs.
What rules will ensure that PBMs provide value and lower drug costs?

Pollsters asked likely voters about a number of specific policies to achieve this goal, and the results show broad support:

- **82%** support requiring PBMs to pass discounts along to patients that they get from negotiating with prescription drug manufacturers.
- **81%** support changing how PBMs profit so it’s not connected to the price of prescription drugs and they are not incentivized to drive up prices for patients.
- **81%** support introducing more transparency into PBMs’ contracts and the prescription drug pricing process.
- **80%** support requiring that insurance plans (like employer health plans) pay PBMs only a simple flat fee for their services, prohibiting PBMs from charging additional fees that ultimately get passed on to patients.

Likely voters’ concern and frustration about the lack of transparency around PBMs should be heard by policymakers. Reducing out-of-pocket costs and improving the overall health care system requires addressing the middlemen health insurance companies that profit at the expense of patients. To see the full polling results, visit pbmaccountability.org.

**ABOUT THE PBM ACCOUNTABILITY PROJECT**

The PBM Accountability Project brings together leaders and stakeholders across healthcare, labor, business, pharmacy and consumer patient advocacy to help ensure that patients and our private and public sector health plans aren’t overpaying for the prescription medicines we need. Our organization is working to educate the public and advance solutions to help redirect prescription drug savings from very high PBM profits back to patients, employee health plans and taxpayers. To learn more about the PBM Accountability Project, visit pbmaccountability.org.