

Dec. 18, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Jeffries, Majority Leader Schumer and Leader McConnell:

The PBM Accountability Project thanks you for your leadership in advancing a continuing resolution that takes bold and essential action to protect American patients, consumers and taxpayers from overpaying for prescription drugs. The Pharmacy Benefit Manager (PBM) reforms included in this legislation will do a great deal to repair our broken prescription drug supply chain and pricing system and remove the incentives for predatory profiteering by corporate middlemen.

The proposed continuing resolution includes a critical provision that will bring economic sense back to the pricing of prescription drugs. It would end the linkage between drug prices and PBM revenues. Today, PBMs are incentivized to steer patients toward higher-priced drugs and away from cheaper generics and biosimilars because they can demand larger rebates from drug manufacturers on more expensive medicines. De-linking drug prices from PBM revenues removes PBMs from the physician-patient relationship and enables prescribing based on what is best for the patient's health and pocketbook.

Similarly, by including restrictions on the PBM practice known as spread pricing – in which the PBMs charge its plan clients significantly more to acquire a drug than they pay pharmacies to dispense them – medicines will be priced based on their value and not what is best for the quarterly profits of the Fortune 15 companies that own and operate PBMs. We are also pleased that the continuing resolution includes provisions mandating greater transparency to address the opaque 'black box' pricing schemes that have enabled PBMs to operate without genuine accountability to employers and taxpayers.

In taking these actions, we applaud you for responding to what the American people want. A [bipartisan national survey conducted this summer](#) found that nine of every 10 voters desire rules requiring PBMs to provide greater value and lower drug costs to consumers and eight in 10 supporting policies preventing PBMs from making profits based on the price of a drug. And this is, in fact, an action that epitomizes bipartisanship, as committees in both the Senate and House have marked up PBM reform legislation with support from members of both parties.

We encourage you and your colleagues to pass this continuing resolution with the PBM reform provisions included. This is a start toward achieving sustainable affordability of prescription drugs for all Americans.

Sincerely,



Doug Dority
Chairman
PBM Accountability Project