

June 23, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
House Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC. 20510

The Honorable John Thune
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

CC: Chairs and Ranking Members of the House Energy & Commerce, House Ways & Means, and Senate Finance Committees

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Jeffries, Leader Thune and Leader Schumer:

As both chambers of Congress move into the final weeks of crafting a budget reconciliation bill, we strongly encourage you to include impactful and widely supported pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) reform provisions. These provisions will take measurable steps to reduce prescription drug costs for millions of Americans and repair what has become a severely broken drug supply chain in which powerful insurance middlemen are acting in their own self-interest in increasing the cost and accessibility of medicines.

In the House version of the reconciliation measure, we were pleased to see that it included PBM reform language. We are disappointed, however, that the Senate has, at present time, not included these provisions in its version of the bill. It is our hope that a final iteration of the reconciliation package will include reforms that enjoy strong bipartisan support in Congress, support from the White House and the backing of the American public.

Including PBM reform language in the reconciliation bill is not even remotely controversial. In the last Congress, multiple Senate and House committees advanced reform bills on bipartisan majority votes. President Trump has said many times that action needs to be taken regarding the corporate middlemen who neither develop drugs nor deliver care, but instead simply collect enormous profits from a drug pricing process they largely control. The Congressional Budget Office has scored the PBM reforms as savings to the federal budget. Polls have shown that Americans believe they are paying too much for their prescription drugs because of PBM profiteering, and they support decisive action.

Right now, Congress has the opportunity to end the PBM spread pricing practices that see the middlemen charge their employer and plan sponsor clients far more for drugs than they reimburse the pharmacies that dispense them. The reforms in the House version would de-link



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PBM compensation from drug pricing and end the perverse incentives to drive patients to higher-priced drugs. They will ensure that negotiated discounts and rebates result in lower costs for patients at the pharmacy.

It is unconscionable that Americans should continue paying more out of pocket than is necessary—or justifiable—for the medicines they need. Enacting a measure that has broad public and political support will bring Americans immediate relief.

Relief at the pharmacy counter will not come for the American people without congressional action to place reasonable guardrails around PBMs' currently unchecked control over drug

costs. The major PBMs control 85% of the prescription drug market and they have used this power to construct a system that serves their financial interests at the expense of patients, employers, taxpayers and community pharmacies. Without intervention, the PBM middlemen will protect and maintain a broken status quo. We urge you to use this budget reconciliation process to make clear that these predatory practices must come to an end so Americans can begin paying a fair price for prescription drugs. Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,



Mark Blum
Managing Director, PBM Accountability Project

