

June 20, 2025

Senate President Rob McColley Speaker of the House Matt Huffman Senate Finance Chair Jerry Cirino House Finance Chair Brian Stewart Ohio Statehouse Columbus, OH

Dear President McColley, Speaker Huffman, Chair Cirino, and Chair Stewart,

On behalf of the members of the PBM Accountability Project of Ohio, we write to request that the language contained in House Bill 276 (340B program statutory mandate) not be placed into the pending budget conference report on Substitute House Bill 96.

While we appreciate the work of Representatives Marilyn John and Adam Holmes in the Ohio House and Senator Kyle Koehler in the Ohio Senate (SB 198) to address the federal 340B program at the state level, there are many remaining issues to be thoroughly debated.

We are deeply concerned that the proposed legislation would expand the program without necessary safeguards to ensure the program is working as intended – for patients in need, not large corporate entities. As written, the bill would further empower pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) to divert critical resources away from the vulnerable patients the program was designed to serve. The 340B program was established to help safety-net providers utilize federal resources to better serve their communities. Unfortunately, unchecked expansion – without robust oversight – has enabled PBMs to exploit the system, capturing discounts intended for patients and safety-net providers, and instead using them to increase their own profits.

HB 276, as currently written, risks exacerbating these problems by enabling PBMs to continue opaque business practices, allowing PBMs to siphon off savings, reducing the ability of providers to offer essential services and medications to Ohioans who need them most.

We respectfully request that the 340B language contained in HB 276 not be placed into the final budget conference committee report for HB 96. We encourage you to instead prioritize reforms that hold PBMs accountable, ensure transparency, and protect the integrity of the 340B program for patients and safety-net providers. Ohio's most vulnerable communities depend on your leadership to ensure that healthcare resources reach those for whom they were intended.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

The Members of the PBM Accountability Project of Ohio