



April 16, 2025

Dear Senator Sinclair,

We are writing to express our strong support for HF 852/SF 383, which includes significant reforms to middlemen, known as pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs). PBMs have been leveraging their position within the prescription drug supply chain to increase their own profits through monopolistic practices. Passing reforms would help ensure patients can more easily and affordably access the medicines they need to stay healthy.

Patients need reliable access to medications. The provisions included in HF 852/SF 383 would improve accessibility and affordability. Not only will this bill ensure better reimbursement for our local pharmacies, curtailing the loss of these important healthcare providers in rural Iowa, but it will also ensure fairer out-of-pocket costs for patients.

Right now, many PBMs do not count third party coupons or payments toward a patient's deductible, meaning that patients with payment assistance may still face large out-of-pocket bills. HF 852/SF 383 would rectify this, ensuring patients can better afford needed medications. The legislation also requires that any rebates the PBM negotiates on a drug will be passed on to the patient, another policy that will significantly reduce out-of-pocket costs for patients at the pharmacy counter.

The loss of local pharmacies has already resulted in what are known as pharmacy deserts all over the state of Iowa. When pharmacies close in our rural areas, or small town, the loss can mean patients must drive long distances or switch to mail order pharmacies, which provide very little customer support. Pharmacists are often the most accessible healthcare professional rural residents have access to, and pharmacy closures mean rural patients have an even more difficult time accessing reliable care. HF 852/SF 383 will prohibit PBMs from steering patients toward mail order pharmacies, ensuring patients can continue seeing their trusted, local pharmacists.

We cannot allow patient choice to be restricted due to the monopolistic business practices of insurance middlemen. The reforms contained in HF 852/SF 383 would prevent some of the worst abuses by PBMs, ensuring lower costs and better access for patients filling their prescriptions.

On behalf of the patients that we take care of every day, we hope you will support this legislation and work to pass it as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

AiArthritis	Iowa Academy of Family Physicians
American Diabetes Association	Iowa Osteopathic Medical Association
Arthritis Foundation	Iowa State Grange
Bleeding Disorders of the Heartland	NAMI Iowa
Community Liver Alliance	National Infusion Center Association (NICA)
Easterseals Iowa	National Psoriasis Foundation
Epilepsy Foundation of Iowa	Prevent Blindness Iowa
Infusion Access Foundation	Rheumatology Association of Iowa