



Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging
Advocacy. Action. Answers on Aging.

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The Honorable Dave Burke, Chair
Senate Medicaid Committee
Senate Building
1 Capitol Square, Ground Floor
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: Substitute HB 116 – Medication Synchronization

Dear Senator Burke:

I am writing on behalf of the Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging to express support for HB 116, the medication synchronization bill. The Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging supports HB 116 because it gives patients more control and promotes better coordination of care.

Medication synchronization is a valuable service offered by pharmacists for people living with chronic conditions who are on complex medication regimens. Medication synchronization allows for maintenance medications to be filled or refilled at the same time every month.

Medication synchronization can help put people back on track with their treatment regimen. Medication synchronization also reduces costs and burdens on people living with chronic health conditions, largely seniors, by reducing the number of times they must visit the pharmacy to pick up medications throughout the month.

HB 116 would also lessen the financial burden by allowing for pro-rated copays when a pharmacy provides a partial fill to promote synchronization. Medicare Part D already requires daily cost-sharing rates for certain prescriptions, and HB 116 would extend this to other insurers. We approve of moving the effective date to July 1, 2016 and of clarifying that the bill applies to Medicaid Fee for service and Medicaid Managed Care Organizations

In sum, the Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging supports HB 116 because it would promote improved health outcomes by improving medication adherence, which is more challenging for people with chronic conditions and multiple prescriptions.

Sincerely,