

To: Members of the Ohio Senate Medicaid Committee

Fr: Tim Maglione, JD, Senior Director of Government Relations, Ohio State Medical Association
Monica Hueckel, Director of Government Relations, Ohio State Medical Association

Da: October 21, 2015

Re: HB 116

We are writing on behalf of the OSMA's 20,000 physicians, residents and medical students to express our support for House Bill 116, a bill which would allow for partial drug prescription refills for the purpose of synchronizing multiple prescriptions for one patient.

As you know medication synchronization is a pharmacy service which allows a patient, pharmacist and physician to work together to coordinate a patient's refills on medications in order to synchronize all prescriptions. This process would allow a patient to pick up all prescriptions from their pharmacist at the same time every month, thus avoiding multiple trips to the pharmacy.

The National Community Pharmacists Association (NCPA) estimates that the annual costs of non-adherence to medications could be as high as \$290 billion dollars. It is estimated that 21 percent of Americans use three or more medicines a month with 10 percent taking five or more medications. As you can tell from this data, this legislation could potentially cut a patients pharmacy trips from five to one per month.

A 2014 study by the NCPA also showed that patients who enrolled in a medication synchronization program averaged 100 additional days on therapy each year and were 30% more likely to take medications as prescribed then those not enrolled. Overall 90% of the patients enrolled were considered adherent. At a time when we are looking for cost savings in the health care system, this legislation is a great way to do just that. Patient adherence results in better patient health and statically has been proven to cut down on emergency room visits.

We would like to thank Representatives Brown and Ginter for sponsoring this important piece of legislation and thank all of the interested parties for working together to craft this bill.

Thank you for your consideration of the OSMA's views on HB 116. Please do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or comments.

Regards,



Tim Maglione, JD
Senior Director of Government Relations



Monica Hueckel
Director of Government Relations