



May 22, 2023

To: Members of the Ohio Senate
Ohio State Capitol
Columbus, Ohio

Dear Distinguished members of the Senate Health Committee:

Cardinal Health, Inc. (“Cardinal Health”) is a global, integrated healthcare solutions company, providing necessary support to help customers and patients navigate the complex healthcare landscape. Cardinal Health writes in **support of telepharmacy**, which enables the delivery of pharmacy services through the use of technology to patients at a distance.

A pharmacist is a critical member of a comprehensive health care team. Patients visit their pharmacist far more frequently than any other healthcare provider. Making pharmacists more accessible results in significant improvements to an individual’s health and the health of entire communities; especially those that lack a pharmacist. Telepharmacy provides the ability to restore or establish pharmacy services, offering patients in underserved communities access to the professional care they would otherwise not receive. Telepharmacy is utilized at a remote dispensing pharmacy, which is a brick-and-mortar pharmacy location just like a traditional retail pharmacy. It does not require any change in scope of practice; a pharmacist still provides the same services they do at a traditional retail pharmacy, they just perform them from a distance using technology.

Telepharmacy is a proven model with over 20 years of history in providing care that is both safe and effective, and in some communities telepharmacy adds a connection to a healthcare provider that may not have existed at all before. The benefits of telepharmacy are many. In short, telepharmacy increases pharmacy resources in underserved areas, offering convenient dispensing and access to a pharmacist for patients in both urban and rural settings. As seen in the 28 other states which safely permit this model, including Ohio’s neighbors of Indiana and Michigan, this legislation gives a pharmacist the ABILITY to utilize telepharmacy and open a remote dispensing pharmacy to improve access to pharmacy care services.

TelePharm, a Cardinal Health Solution, is an innovative pharmacy software platform which facilitates telepharmacy operations at remote dispensing pharmacies and enables the seamless transfer of information between a remote dispensing pharmacy and a supervising pharmacy. Our solution is designed to help pharmacies establish, restore, and provide pharmacy services to communities which is integral to patient success.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment in support of telepharmacy. We welcome any questions that the committee members may have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jessica Adams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jessica Adams, PharmD
Director, Regulatory Affairs
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