



OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Molly Mottram, Director of Healthcare Policy

Ohio Chamber of Commerce

Proponent Testimony – House Bill 229

October 7, 2025

Chairwoman Ray, Vice Chair LaRe, Ranking Member Brent, and members of the House General Government Committee thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on House Bill 229 (HB 229). My name is Molly Mottram, and I am the Director of Healthcare Policy at the Ohio Chamber of Commerce.

For 132 years, the Ohio Chamber has served as the state's leading business advocate, representing more than 8,000 employers across Ohio. Our mission is to aggressively champion free enterprise, economic competitiveness, and growth for the benefit of all.

Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) are one of many important tools that employers use to design and manage their prescription drug benefits. They help employers provide broad access to medications and manage costs. HB 229 establishes a new stand-alone licensing process for PBMs and provides a clear regulatory framework and oversight through the Ohio Department of Insurance. By setting consistent licensing criteria and contract requirements, the bill ensures that PBMs are providing clarity on rebates, discounts, administrative fees and access to financial and utilization data used by PBMs to employers.

We have worked in good faith with Representative Deeter, the bill sponsor, and our members throughout the development of this legislation. Through these collaborative discussions, we have reached a place of support for HB 229, recognizing that its focus on licensing and regulatory oversight strengthens accountability across the drug supply chain while preserving flexibility for employers who use PBMs.

For employers, this bill is particularly valuable. By improving clarity and consistency in how PBMs operate, HB 229 helps employers make more informed decisions about their benefit design, manage prescription drug spending with greater predictability, and promote a fair, competitive healthcare marketplace.

In conclusion, HB 229 offers a balanced and practical approach to improving confidence in the prescription drug system. For Ohio employers committed to providing quality, affordable health benefits, this legislation delivers the oversight and reliability needed to manage one of their most significant and complex cost drivers. We respectfully urge the committee to support HB

229. Thank you for your time and consideration, I am happy to answer any questions from the committee.