

The Honorable Jean Schmidt, Chair
Ohio House Health Committee
Statehouse
Columbus, OH 43215

Dear Chair Schmidt and Members of the House Health Committee,

My name is Alissa Boardman, and I am submitting testimony on behalf of Revco Solutions, a company that works with hospitals, clinics, and physician practices across Ohio to manage patient accounts and recover outstanding balances.

We strongly oppose House Bill 257 because it would make it nearly impossible for providers to recover the costs of care, with consequences that extend far beyond balance sheets. In reality, this legislation threatens access to healthcare for thousands of Ohioans.

Why HB 257 Would Harm Healthcare Access

- Loss of accountability. Wage garnishment and credit reporting are tools of last resort — used only after every other effort to work with a patient has failed. Eliminating them removes accountability and signals that medical bills need not be repaid. When patients who *can* pay choose not to, the burden shifts to everyone else through higher costs and reduced services.
- 3% interest cap hurts patients. Artificially capping interest at 3% makes it economically impossible for providers and agencies to offer flexible payment plans. Ironically, this will reduce options for patients who want to pay over time and instead push providers to demand larger up-front payments.
- Rural and smaller hospitals will suffer most. Many already operate on razor-thin margins. If they lose even a small percentage of recoveries, closures and service cuts will follow. Communities could lose access to emergency rooms, maternity wards, or specialist care — forcing patients to travel hours for treatment.

At Revco, we see every day how fragile Ohio's healthcare system has become. Our role is not to punish patients, but to help providers remain financially stable so they can keep caring for their communities. HB 257 would destabilize that system — shifting costs, eliminating patient options, and driving providers out of business.

Lessons from Other States

When similar legislation passed in Colorado, we witnessed serious negative effects:

- Reduced cost recovery: Providers faced longer, more difficult processes to recover payments, straining already tight budgets.
- Higher costs for patients: Unrecovered debt was shifted onto paying patients through higher service costs and insurance premiums.
- Unfair targeting of healthcare: Interest caps were imposed only on medical debt, singling out one industry while other forms of debt remained unaffected.
- Reduced services: Providers cut back on unprofitable services, limiting care availability in certain communities.

Federal Preemption Concerns

There is also a serious legal issue the Committee should weigh. On July 11, 2025, the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas vacated the CFPB's rule prohibiting medical debt from appearing on consumer credit reports. The court's reasoning — based on a detailed review of statutory text and FCRA preemption — casts doubt on the enforceability of state laws that restrict medical debt reporting.

While that decision applies directly only in Texas, it provides persuasive guidance that other courts and states are likely to follow. This raises the real possibility that laws like HB 257 could face immediate legal challenges and ultimately be struck down as preempted by federal law. Passing legislation that is both harmful to providers and legally vulnerable would place Ohio on shaky ground.

Conclusion

Protecting access to care for Ohio families requires a balanced approach — one that supports patients in need without crippling the providers who serve them. HB 257 does not strike that balance. Instead, it undermines accountability, destabilizes healthcare providers, and risks putting patients in communities across Ohio farther away from the care they need.

For these reasons, on behalf of Revco Solutions and the providers we serve, we respectfully urge the Committee to reject HB 257.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Alissa Boardman
Director of Legal Collections
Revco Solutions