

Advocates for Ohio's Future

Written Proponent Testimony
Ohio House Insurance Committee
House Bill 276, Prohibit certain actions re: reimbursing 340B covered entities
June 17, 2025

Chair Lampton, Vice Chair Craig, Ranking Member Tims, and members of the House Insurance Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written proponent testimony on House Bill 276. My name is Sarah Hudacek and I am the Coalition Manager of Advocates for Ohio's Future. Advocates for Ohio's Future (AOF) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan coalition of state and local health and human services policy, advocacy and provider organizations that strive to strengthen families and communities through health, human services, and early care & education.

As a coalition, we believe health is a vital first step on the path to economic stability and living a fulfilled life. Safety net providers including but not limited to Federally Qualified Health Centers (FQHCs) and FQHC look-alikes, also known as Community Health Centers, play a vital role in helping low-income uninsured and underinsured patients access care in a cost-effective setting and significantly improve health outcomes for Ohioans and families across the state.

The 340B Drug Pricing Program, enacted by Congress in 1992, requires drug manufacturers to provide frontend discounts on covered outpatient drugs purchased by specified safety net providers in exchange for having their drugs covered by Medicaid and Medicare. Under the 340B program, safety net providers are mandated to pass every penny of savings from reduced prices into activities that expand access to care for medically underserved patients. For example, some Health Centers use 340B savings to expand beyond medical care and provide dental, pharmacy, and substance use disorder treatment services, or to further extend hours of operation.

In recent years, drug manufacturers have imposed restrictive policies that prevent 340B drugs from being delivered to contracted pharmacies. Many FQHCs serve multiple counties, including patients living in rural areas, patients with transportation and mobility challenges, patients who work during normal pharmacy business hours, or patients who need emergency after-hours prescriptions. For these reasons and more, protecting the ability of FQHC patients to access more than one in-house pharmacy is vital to patient outcomes and success.

HB 276 would protect access to affordable medications across Ohio by prohibiting drug manufacturers from placing unnecessary restrictions on 340B drug shipments to Community Health Centers and their pharmacy partners.

Advocates for Ohio's Future urges the Committee to support HB 276 to ensure continued access to affordable prescription medications for Ohio's most vulnerable populations.

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175 S. Third Street Suite 350 | Columbus Ohio 43215 www.advocatesforohio.org | shudacek@communitysolutions.com