



March 11, 2026

The Honorable Brian Lampton
Chairman, Ohio House Insurance Committee
77 S. High Street, 13th floor
Columbus, OH 43215

RE: Support for Ohio House Bill 192

Mr. Chairman and members of the House Insurance Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony for House Bill 192, which provides for meaningful reforms to ensure patients can continue to have access to medically necessary, affordable medications at their local pharmacy.

Walmart's mission is to help customers live better by delivering a one-stop shop for their health and wellness needs – every day, every season, for every item.

Walmart and Sam's Club ("Walmart") operate more than 5,100 pharmacies nationwide, and more than 4,000 Walmart stores are in medical professional shortage areas, allowing Walmart to address the healthcare needs of those who wouldn't otherwise have access. Our pharmacists are often one of the most accessible and trusted healthcare professionals in their community. In 21 states, we offer test and treat for flu, strep, and COVID, with 75% of customers using this service after 5 p.m. on weekdays or on the weekend.

Walmart maintains that any state legislation that directly or indirectly impedes the uniform nationwide administration of self-funded plans subject to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act is preempted by federal law. However, we support states' attempts to otherwise regulate pharmacy benefit managers' ("PBMs") business practices, which have contributed to increases in prescription drug prices, lack of transparency in drug pricing, conflicts of interest that harm patients, and unfair compensation for pharmacy services. PBM reform is needed to lower prescription drug costs, ensure patient access, and protect pharmacies from PBM tactics that can adversely affect serving patients. Americans rely on pharmacies and pharmacists more than ever. We can be part of a broader solution to healthcare but there must be greater transparency and oversight of PBM practices and fair reimbursement for pharmacies.

PBMs have developed a business model that allows them to generate profits by controlling access to and cost of medications. PBMs also control which pharmacies can serve patient populations and, since there is no way for pharmacies to compete for those consumers outside of established networks, the PBMs can and do establish the reimbursement levels





that pharmacies must accept. As a result, pharmacies are often reimbursed below their cost for hundreds of medications. With reimbursement levels unsustainable, pharmacies face tough decisions: continue serving customers or exit the market. Pharmacies want to care for customers but must remain financially viable.

Policy reforms are needed so patients can continue to have access to medically necessary, affordable medications at their local pharmacy. This includes:

1. Greater transparency into payments collected by PBMs from pharmaceutical manufacturers.
2. Better oversight and enforcement authorities on reported violations.
3. Fair and reasonable pharmacy reimbursement.

We therefore urge your favorable consideration of House Bill 192, as its passage is crucial to ensuring fair and transparent pharmacy practices, maintaining patient access to affordable medications, and supporting the vital role of local pharmacies in our communities.

Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony today. Again, we respectfully ask for your favorable consideration of House Bill 192.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rachael Carl".

Rachael Carl

Director, Public & Government Affairs
Walmart, Inc.

