



March 6, 2026

Representative Brian Lampton
Chair- Ohio House Insurance Committee
77 South High Street- 13th floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Re: Discount Drug Mart Supports House Bill 192

Dear Chair Lampton:

On behalf of Discount Drug Mart's 4,700 plus employees- including more than 250 pharmacists and 800 pharmacy technicians- operating 79 pharmacies and stores throughout Ohio- we write this letter to urge Members of the House Insurance Committee to support House Bill 192 (the Community Pharmacy Protection Act). We believe House Bill 192 will result in meaningful pharmacy benefit manager reforms.

Today- just three pharmacy benefit managers **control more than 80% of all pharmacy networks and prescription drug claims in the United States.** Each year- these three largest PBMs appear on the Fortune 25 List of Largest Companies in the United States. These PBMs generated more than **\$500 billion in revenues** for 2025- up more than 10% from the previous year.

In 2022- Ohio Medicaid moved to a single PBM contract creating a new system of paying for medications. **The result: a savings to Ohio taxpayers of \$140 million over 2 years.** And- dispensing fees and reimbursements paid to pharmacies have increased as well. The study was conducted by Milliman- Ohio Medicaid's actuarial firm. Please do not believe the hype and misinformation of increased insurance premiums by our opponents. They are only protecting their places on the Fortune 25 lists.

The reforms in House Bill 192 will result in a more competitive marketplace- and ensure **better patient access** to medications. The drug cost reimbursement strategies and underhanded tactics of the PBMs have resulted in the closings of thousands of pharmacies in the United States over the last 7 years. **In Ohio- we have lost more than 200 pharmacies** over the last 2 years creating pharmacy deserts throughout Ohio. Attorney General Dave Yost has filed a lawsuit accusing the PBMs of illegally driving up the cost of medications. In many instances- **prescriptions we fill are below our cost to purchase.**

Discount Drug Mart is a great Ohio story. We are an employee owned company with 79 pharmacies and stores just in Ohio. Founded in 1969 by Parviz Boodjeh- a pharmacist- we employ more than 4,700 Ohioans- including more than 250 pharmacists. **We help patients use medicines correctly and safely- while offering innovative services that improve patient health outcomes and healthcare affordability.**

We would urge you and the Members of the House Insurance Committee to support House Bill 192.

Respectfully,

Steve Ferris

Steve Ferris
Government & Public Affairs Director