



OHIO CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**Molly Mottram, Director of Healthcare Policy
Ohio Chamber of Commerce**

Proponent Testimony – House Bill 229

November 4, 2025

Chairman Wilson, Vice Chair Lang, Ranking Member Craig and members of the Senate Financial Institutions, Insurance and Technology Committee. Thank you for the opportunity to provide proponent testimony on House Bill 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 champion free enterprise, economic competitiveness, and growth for the benefit of all.

Pharmacy Benefit Managers, or PBMs, are one of several important tools employers use to design and manage prescription drug benefits. PBMs help employers design pharmacy benefits, access medications and manage costs. House Bill 229 takes a thoughtful step toward improving the transparency and predictability of PBM operations benefiting both employers and the employees they serve.

HB 229 creates a stand-alone licensing process for PBMs under the Ohio Department of Insurance, establishing clear oversight and consistent standards. It requires written agreements and defines key contract terms. This ensures PBMs provide employers with annual or more frequent accounting of rebates, discounts, administrative fees, and other financial and utilization data used to manage benefit plans.

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.

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 transparency across the drug supply chain while preserving flexibility for employers who use PBMs.

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 consideration, and I am happy to answer any questions from the committee.