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Owning my own small business, I cannot imagine the disappointment, frustration and anger that would come from seeing your life's work being destroyed. That is exactly what PBM abuse is doing to local pharmacists. When these local pharmacy businesses fold, there is nothing but losses.

These businesses are not just a place where a patient can obtain their medication, they are our friends. They know us, they know not just our medical conditions but they know our families and often are a point of contact for the most vulnerable in our community. As an attorney, I often act as guardian for the elderly or incompetent. It was not unusual for me to get a call from our local pharmacies to alert me as to an interaction that was had at the pharmacy. They know the history of their patients so they know if a change in medication may result in an unintended change in behavior. A loss these pharmacies will leave this vulnerable population with a loss of access to the medication they need and just as importantly a loss of a caring friend to keep an eye on them.

To the community, there is a loss of a local business and a loss of jobs which of course has a negative economic impact. The pharmacists I know are some of the most giving individuals. But a loss of their livelihood will undoubtedly impact their ability to support the local community. We need to protect these small businesses. It is for this reason that I support HB 96.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Faye D. Cox', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Faye D. Cox, Esq.