

COMPOUNDING & MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

My name is John Brossart. I've been a pharmacist for 40 years. My wife and I have owned Brossart Pharmacy in Cleves, Ohio for 36 years.

I would like to address the fair reimbursement part of HB 96. This is not to make pharmacists wealthy, on the contrary, if this does not stay in the bill, independent pharmacy will not survive.

Last year we cancelled our contract with CVS/Caremark Medicare D because of unfair pricing. Many of our customers were able to change to another insurance company to stay with us, some did not. They ended up going to Kroger pharmacy, but many had to travel 30 minutes to get their prescriptions at other pharmacies besides Kroger. This is not right and will happen if even more if we don't get fair reimbursement.

If PBM reform does not happen, I don't know how much longer we can stay in business. If things don't change and we can't survive, the only pharmacy available will be Kroger pharmacy for almost 10 miles. If the Kroger pharmacy won't accept their insurance either, we're possibly looking at a pharmacy Desert.

HB96 is good for Ohio. We must control costs, but pharmacy is not the problem. Pharmacy is the solution. We are the closest healthcare provider to the public, but we need to be reimbursed fairly to be there for our patients.

PBMs are the problem: they use their uncontrolled power to make an unfair profit off pharmacies and the companies who use them. Keep the "fair reimbursement" language that is in HB96 to give your constituents good healthcare.

Thank you to the committee for looking at PBM abuse.

John Brossart