

**As Introduced**

**136th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2025-2026**

**H. B. No. 192**

**Representatives Barhorst, Fischer**

**Cosponsors: Representatives McClain, Gross, Dean, Johnson, Mullins, Odioso**

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**A BILL**

To amend section 3902.50 and to enact sections 1  
3902.75, 3902.76, and 3959.151 of the Revised 2  
Code to limit insurer accreditation requirements 3  
for pharmacies, to implement drug cost reporting 4  
requirements for pharmacy benefit managers, and 5  
to name this act the Community Pharmacy 6  
Protection Act. 7

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 3902.50 be amended and sections 8  
3902.75, 3902.76, and 3959.151 of the Revised Code be enacted to 9  
read as follows: 10

**Sec. 3902.50.** As used in sections 3902.50 to ~~3902.72~~ 11  
3902.76 of the Revised Code: 12

(A) "Ambulance" has the same meaning as in section 4765.01 13  
of the Revised Code. 14

(B) "Clinical laboratory services" has the same meaning as 15  
in section 4731.65 of the Revised Code. 16

(C) "Cost sharing" means the cost to a covered person 17

under a health benefit plan according to any copayment, 18  
coinsurance, deductible, or other out-of-pocket expense 19  
requirement. 20

(D) "Covered" or "coverage" means the provision of 21  
benefits related to health care services to a covered person in 22  
accordance with a health benefit plan. 23

(E) "Covered person," "health benefit plan," "health care 24  
services," and "health plan issuer" have the same meanings as in 25  
section 3922.01 of the Revised Code. 26

(F) "Drug" has the same meaning as in section 4729.01 of 27  
the Revised Code. 28

(G) "Emergency facility" has the same meaning as in 29  
section 3701.74 of the Revised Code. 30

(H) "Emergency services" means all of the following as 31  
described in 42 U.S.C. 1395dd: 32

(1) Medical screening examinations undertaken to determine 33  
whether an emergency medical condition exists; 34

(2) Treatment necessary to stabilize an emergency medical 35  
condition; 36

(3) Appropriate transfers undertaken prior to an emergency 37  
medical condition being stabilized. 38

(I) "Health care practitioner" has the same meaning as in 39  
section 3701.74 of the Revised Code. 40

(J) "Pharmacy benefit manager" has the same meaning as in 41  
section 3959.01 of the Revised Code. 42

(K) "Prior authorization requirement" means any practice 43  
implemented by a health plan issuer in which coverage of a 44

health care service, device, or drug is dependent upon a covered 45  
person or a provider obtaining approval from the health plan 46  
issuer prior to the service, device, or drug being performed, 47  
received, or prescribed, as applicable. "Prior authorization 48  
requirement" includes prospective or utilization review 49  
procedures conducted prior to providing a health care service, 50  
device, or drug. 51

(L) "Unanticipated out-of-network care" means health care 52  
services, including clinical laboratory services, that are 53  
covered under a health benefit plan and that are provided by an 54  
out-of-network provider when either of the following conditions 55  
applies: 56

(1) The covered person did not have the ability to request 57  
such services from an in-network provider. 58

(2) The services provided were emergency services. 59

Sec. 3902.75. (A) As used in sections 3902.75 and 3902.76 60  
of the Revised Code: 61

(1) Notwithstanding section 3902.50 of the Revised Code, 62  
"health plan issuer" has the same meaning as in section 3922.01 63  
of the Revised Code but also includes an auditing entity, as 64  
defined in section 3901.81 of the Revised Code. 65

(2) "Pharmacy" has the same meaning as in section 4729.01 66  
of the Revised Code and also includes a dispensing physician. 67

(B) A health plan issuer that offers, issues, or 68  
administers a health benefit plan that covers pharmacy services, 69  
including prescription drug coverage, shall not require a 70  
pharmacy, as a condition of participation in the health plan 71  
issuer's network, to meet accreditation standards or 72  
certification requirements that are inconsistent with or in 73

addition to those of the state board of pharmacy. 74

(C) In addition to any other remedies provided by law, any 75  
covered person or pharmacy affected by a violation of this 76  
section may file a formal complaint with the superintendent of 77  
insurance. 78

**Sec. 3902.76.** (A) The superintendent of insurance shall 79  
evaluate any complaint filed under section 3902.75 of the 80  
Revised Code. 81

(B) (1) If the superintendent determines, based on a 82  
complaint by a covered person or pharmacy or other information 83  
available to the superintendent, that a health plan issuer or 84  
one or more of the health plan issuer's intermediaries has 85  
violated section 3902.75 of the Revised Code, the superintendent 86  
shall do both of the following: 87

(a) Issue a notice of violation to the health plan issuer 88  
or intermediary that clearly explains the violation; 89

(b) Impose an administrative penalty on the health plan 90  
issuer or intermediary of one thousand dollars for each 91  
violation. 92

(2) Each day that a violation of section 3902.75 of the 93  
Revised Code continues after the health plan issuer or 94  
intermediary receives notice of violation under division (B) (1) 95  
(a) of this section is considered a separate violation for the 96  
purposes of the administrative penalty under division (B) (1) (b) 97  
of this section. 98

(C) Before imposing an administrative penalty under this 99  
section, the superintendent shall afford the health plan issuer 100  
or intermediary an opportunity for an adjudication hearing under 101  
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code. At the hearing, the health 102

plan issuer or intermediary may challenge the superintendent's 103  
determination that a violation occurred, the superintendent's 104  
imposition of an administrative penalty, or both. The health 105  
plan issuer or intermediary may appeal the superintendent's 106  
determination and imposition of an administrative penalty in 107  
accordance with section 119.12 of the Revised Code. 108

(D) An administrative penalty collected under this section 109  
shall be deposited into the state treasury to the credit of the 110  
department of insurance operating fund created by section 111  
3901.021 of the Revised Code. 112

**Sec. 3959.151.** (A) As used in this section, "machine- 113  
readable format" means a digital representation of information 114  
in a file that can be imported or read into a computer system 115  
for further processing. "Machine-readable format" includes.XML 116  
and.CSV formats. 117

(B) (1) Each pharmacy benefit manager shall quarterly 118  
provide to the superintendent of insurance and to the pharmacy 119  
benefit manager's contracted insurers and plan sponsors, 120  
including contracted public employee benefit plans and 121  
contracted employers offering a self-insurance program, an 122  
electronic report of all drug claims processed the previous 123  
quarter in a machine-readable format that is also readable in 124  
plain language without the use of software. 125

(2) The electronic report provided to an insurer, a plan 126  
sponsor, or the medicaid program shall include an itemized list 127  
of the maximum allowable cost of each drug product from all drug 128  
product claims processed by the pharmacy benefit manager in the 129  
previous quarter for that insurer, that plan sponsor, or the 130  
medicaid program. The electronic report provided to the 131  
superintendent of insurance shall include an itemized list of 132

the actual acquisition cost of each drug product from all drug product claims processed by the pharmacy benefit manager in the previous quarter for all insurers and plan sponsors. 133  
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(3) The itemized list shall notate the following for each drug product: 136  
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(a) If the drug was procured pursuant to the pharmacy benefit manager, insurer, plan sponsor, or department of medicaid's drug formulary or list of covered drugs; 138  
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(b) If the drug was procured outside of the drug formulary or list of covered drugs; 141  
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(c) If the drug is a brand-name drug; 143

(d) If the drug is a generic drug; 144

(e) If the drug is a specialty drug, including biological products. 145  
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(C) (1) No agreement between a pharmacy benefit manager and an insurer or plan sponsor, including a service agreement under section 3959.15 of the Revised Code, that is entered into, amended, or renewed on or after the effective date of this section shall prohibit disclosure of any of the information included in the itemized list required by division (B) of this section. 147  
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(2) Notwithstanding division (B) of this section, a pharmacy benefit manager is not required to disclose information deemed proprietary or confidential by a service agreement between the pharmacy benefit manager and an insurer or plan sponsor that is entered into in accordance with section 3959.15 of the Revised Code before the effective date of this section, and in effect on the date the information would otherwise be 154  
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submitted as part of the itemized list required by division (B) 161  
of this section. 162

(D) No pharmacy benefit manager shall retaliate against a 163  
pharmacy in this state that reports an alleged violation of this 164  
section or exercises a right or remedy under this section, by 165  
doing any of the following: 166

(1) Terminating or refusing to renew a contract with the 167  
pharmacy without providing notice to the pharmacy at least 168  
ninety days in advance; 169

(2) Subjecting a pharmacy to increased audits without 170  
providing notice to the pharmacy and a detailed description of 171  
reason for the audit at least ninety days in advance; 172

(3) Failing to promptly pay a pharmacy in accordance with 173  
sections 3901.381 to 3901.3814 of the Revised Code. 174

(E) If a pharmacy in this state believes that a pharmacy 175  
benefit manager has violated this section, in addition to any 176  
other remedies provided by law, a pharmacy may file a formal 177  
complaint and provide evidence related to the complaint to the 178  
superintendent of insurance. 179

(F) The superintendent of insurance shall adopt rules in 180  
accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code for the 181  
purposes of implementing and administering this section. 182  
Notwithstanding any provision of section 121.95 of the Revised 183  
Code to the contrary, a regulatory restriction contained in a 184  
rule adopted by the superintendent in accordance with this 185  
section is not subject to sections 121.95 to 121.953 of the 186  
Revised Code. 187

**Section 2.** That existing section 3902.50 of the Revised 188  
Code is hereby repealed. 189

**Section 3.** Sections 3902.75 and 3902.76 of the Revised Code, as enacted in this act, apply to health benefit plans, as defined in section 3922.01 of the Revised Code, delivered, issued for delivery, modified, or renewed on or after the effective date of those sections.

**Section 4.** Sections 3902.75 and 3902.76 of the Revised Code, as enacted in this act, apply to contracts between health plan issuers, as defined in section 3922.01 of the Revised Code, and pharmacies entered into, modified, or renewed on or after the effective date of those sections.

**Section 5.** This act shall be known as the Community Pharmacy Protection Act.