

To: Members of the Ohio Senate, Health and Human Services Committee

Fr: Tim Maglione, JD, Senior Director, Ohio State Medical Association
Monica Hueckel, Director, Ohio State Medical Association

Da: November 29, 2016

Re: HB 285

On behalf of the 16,000 physician, resident and medical student members of the Ohio State Medical Association (OSMA), **we are writing to express our support for HB 285**, legislation that will permit a pharmacist to fill one or more refills of a prescription at the same time the prescription is originally filled and/or fill multiple refills of a prescription at one time.

The OSMA believes that the proper safeguards are in place for patient safety in this bill. A pharmacist may take either action described above if all of the following conditions are met:

- The prescription is not for a controlled substance;
- The prescriber does not include "dispense quantity written," or another phrase having a similar meaning on the prescription, or, when ordering a prescription electronically or orally, the prescriber does not specify that the quantity of the drug is to be dispensed as ordered;
- The amount of the drug that is dispensed at one time does not exceed a ninety-day supply as specified in the prescription;
- In the exercise of the pharmacist's professional judgment, taking the action described in the first two bullet points is appropriate for the patient.

This legislation represents a positive addition to a growing trend of collaboration between physicians and pharmacists in the management of patients' drug therapies. We believe that if enacted, this legislation could help to increase medication adherence and thus improve the overall health of Ohio patients.

The OSMA appreciates the opportunity to be meaningful contributors to the legislative process. Please contact us with any questions you may have.