

Tab 1	CS/SB 390 by BI, Wright; (Compare to CS/H 01155) Prescription Drug Coverage					
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COMMITTEE MEETING EXPANDED AGENDA

**APPROPRIATIONS SUBCOMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,
ENVIRONMENT, AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT**

Senator Albritton, Chair

Senator Rodrigues, Vice Chair

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, April 13, 2021
TIME: 2:00—6:00 p.m.
PLACE: *Toni Jennings Committee Room*, 110 Senate Building

MEMBERS: Senator Albritton, Chair; Senator Rodrigues, Vice Chair; Senators Ausley, Berman, Boyd, Bradley, Brodeur, Garcia, Mayfield, Stewart, and Thurston

TAB	BILL NO. and INTRODUCER	BILL DESCRIPTION and SENATE COMMITTEE ACTIONS	COMMITTEE ACTION
PUBLIC TESTIMONY WILL BE RECEIVED FROM ROOM A1 AT THE DONALD L. TUCKER CIVIC CENTER, 505 W PENSACOLA STREET, TALLAHASSEE, FL 32301			

1	CS/SB 390 Banking and Insurance / Wright (Compare CS/H 1155)	Prescription Drug Coverage; Authorizing the Office of Insurance Regulation to examine pharmacy benefit managers; revising the entities conducting pharmacy audits to which certain requirements and restrictions apply; authorizing the office to require health insurers to submit to the office certain contracts or contract amendments entered into with pharmacy benefit managers; requiring certain health benefit plans covering small employers to comply with certain provisions, etc. BI 03/16/2021 Fav/CS AEG 04/13/2021 Favorable AP	Favorable Yeas 10 Nays 0
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Other Related Meeting Documents

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government

BILL: CS/SB 390

INTRODUCER: Banking and Insurance Committee and Senator Wright

SUBJECT: Prescription Drug Coverage

DATE: April 12, 2021

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Johnson</u>	<u>Knudson</u>	<u>BI</u>	<u>Fav/CS</u>
2.	<u>Sanders</u>	<u>Betta</u>	<u>AEG</u>	<u>Recommend: Favorable</u>
3.	_____	_____	<u>AP</u>	_____

Please see Section IX. for Additional Information:

COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE - Substantial Changes

I. Summary:

CS/SB 390 revises provisions of the Florida Insurance Code (code) relating to the oversight of pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) by the Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR). Specifically, the bill:

- Authorizes the OIR to conduct market conduct examinations of PBMs to determine compliance with applicable provisions of the code;
- Requires a health insurer or Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO), and any entity acting on their behalf, including a PBM, to comply with the pharmacy audit provisions;
- Provides that a health insurer or HMO may only contract with a PBM that complies with specified statutory requirements;
- Authorizes an audited pharmacy to appeal certain pharmacy audit findings made by health insurers or HMO; and
- Clarifies that an insurer or HMO remains responsible for any violations of the pharmacy audit requirements and the prompt pay law by a PBM acting on its behalf.

The OIR estimates that it will incur a negative fiscal impact, ranging from \$100,000 to \$200,000, to contract with a pharmacist to provide oversight of PBM market conduct examinations and respond to complaints involving pharmacy audits.

The Division of State Group Insurance program may incur an indeterminate negative fiscal impact associated with the administrative costs associated with any market conduct examination

of its PBM by the OIR, to the extent such examination occurs and such costs are passed down to participants of the program.

The bill is effective July 1, 2021.

II. Present Situation:

In 2019, total U.S. health care spending increased 4.6 percent from the prior year to reach \$2.8 trillion or \$11,482 per person.¹ Over the past 20 years, U.S. drug spending has increased by 330 percent compared with a 208 percent increase in total U.S. health expenditures.²

The Prescription Drug Supply Chain

In recent years, the affordability of prescription drugs has gained attention, resulting in pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) and drug manufacturers coming under scrutiny as policymakers have attempted to understand their role in the drug supply chain. Many stakeholders (drug manufacturers, drug wholesalers, pharmacy services administrative organizations, pharmacy benefit managers, health plans, employers, and consumers) are involved with, and pay different prices for, prescription drugs as they move from the drug manufacturer to the insured.

Due to a lack of transparency in the marketplace, it can be difficult to determine the final price of a prescription drug. The final price of a drug may include rebates and discounts to insurers, Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO), or pharmacy benefit managers that are not disclosed.³ Market participants, such as drug wholesalers, may add their own markups and fees, and drug manufacturers may offer direct consumer discounts, such as prescription drug coupons that can be redeemed when filling a particular prescription at a pharmacy.⁴

Some independent pharmacies may contract with pharmacy services administrative organizations (PSAO) to interact on their behalf with other stakeholders, such as drug wholesalers and third-party payers, such as large private and public health plans and their PBMs.⁵ The PSAOs develop networks of pharmacies by signing contractual agreements with each pharmacy that authorizes them to negotiate with third-party payers on the pharmacy's behalf. Drug wholesalers and independent pharmacy cooperatives owned the majority of PSAOs in operation in 2011 or 2012.⁶ Health insurers, HMOs, or self-insured employers may contract with PBMs to manage their

¹ Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, *National Health Expenditure 2019 Highlights*, <https://www.cms.gov/Research-Statistics-Data-and-Systems/Statistics-Trends-and-Reports/NationalHealthExpendData/NationalHealthAccountsHistorical> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

² Kirzinger, A., et. al., for the Kaiser Family Foundation. *US Public's Perspective on Prescription Drug Costs*. *JAMA*. 2019;322(15):1440. doi:10.1001/jama.2019.15547, <https://jamanetwork.com/journals/jama/fullarticle/2752910> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

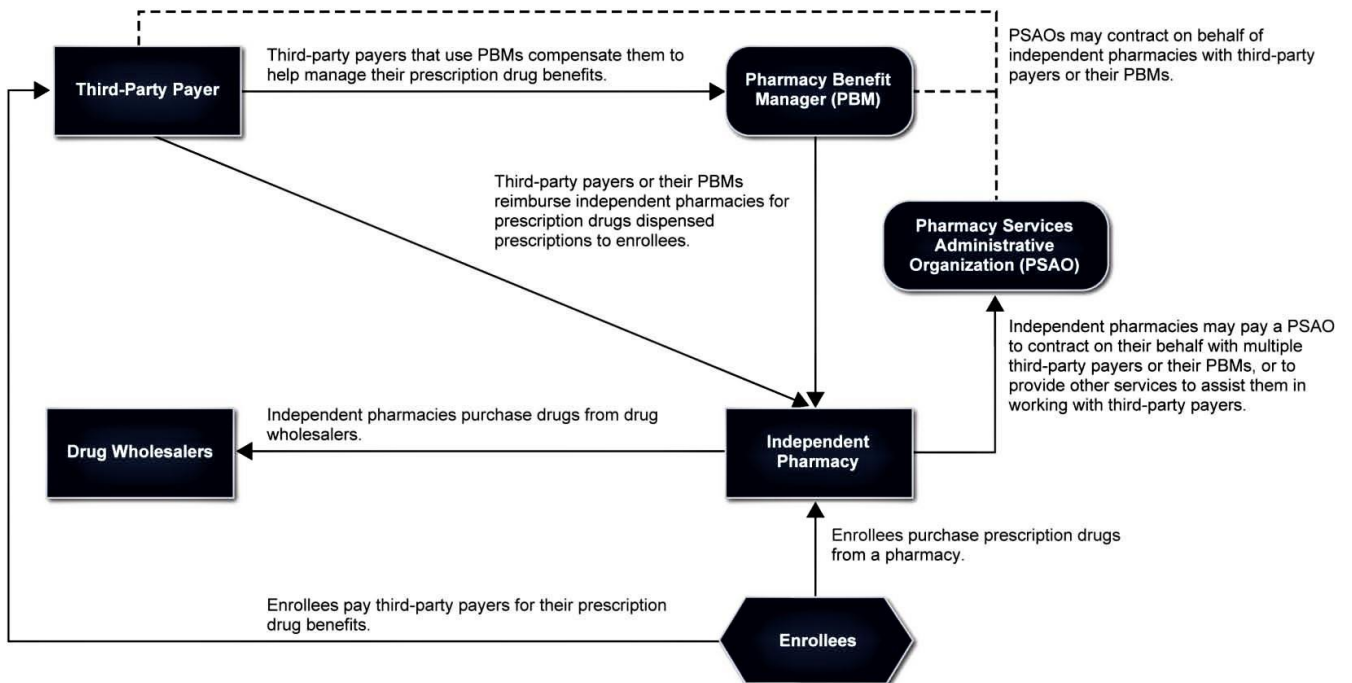
³ *Annu. Rev. Public Health*. 1999. 20:361–401.

⁴ Reynolds, Ian, et. al., *The Prescription Drug Landscape, Explored* (Mar. 2019). The Pew Charitable Trusts, <https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/reports/2019/03/08/the-prescription-drug-landscape-explored> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

⁵ General Accounting Office, *The Number, Role, and Ownership of Pharmacy Services Administrative Organizations* (GAO-13-176) (Feb 28, 2013), <https://www.gao.gov/assets/gao-13-176.pdf> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

⁶ *Id.*

prescription drug benefits. The interaction among key entities involved in the distribution and payment of prescription drugs is depicted below:⁷



Source: GAO analysis based on interviews and industry reports.

The Commonwealth Fund Study of 15 Large Employer Plans⁸

In response to concerns about rising drug costs, a recent study by The Commonwealth Fund evaluated drug utilization from plan sponsors to estimate savings from reducing the use of high cost, low-value drugs and described some of the cost concerns and challenges relating to the drug supply chain, as follows:

PBMs negotiate with pharmaceutical manufacturers for price discounts, which are typically paid as rebates based on sales volumes driven by formulary placement. Rebates can reduce the final net price to the plan sponsor and may be passed on to patients. However, in exchange for low administration fees, plan sponsors allow PBMs to keep a portion of the negotiated rebates and other fees. Contracts between PBMs and plan sponsors contain rebate guarantees, perpetuating the demand for high-rebate drugs by encouraging PBMs to maximize rebate revenue, giving preference to some drugs over others on formularies based on rebate revenue rather than their value and final cost to the patient or plan sponsor. Additionally, PBMs earn revenue from “spread” pricing, which is the difference between what PBMs pay pharmacies on behalf of plan sponsors

⁷ *Id* at pg. 15.

⁸ Vela, Lauren, *Reducing Wasteful Spending in Employers’ Pharmacy Benefit Plans* (Aug. 2019) the Commonwealth Fund, <https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/issue-briefs/2019/aug/reducing-wasteful-spending-employers-pharmacy-benefit-plans> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

and what PBMs are reimbursed by the plan sponsor. This also encourages PBMs to prioritize higher-cost drugs to allow for a larger spread.⁹

The study further describes additional factors which may increase costs for employers and insureds:

[P]lan sponsors often allow broad formularies that include wasteful drugs because they are concerned that employees will be disappointed if their prescribed drugs are not covered. Doctors prescribe these drugs because they are often unaware of drug costs. Pharmaceutical manufacturers contribute to these patterns by promoting their products through “detailers” — pharmaceutical salespeople calling on doctors — when less costly alternatives may be clinically appropriate for patients. Plan sponsors have addressed the resulting high spending by increasing patient cost-sharing on lower-value drugs. Manufacturers counteract cost-sharing and formulary management tools by flooding the market with copayment coupons that undermine the benefit structure put in place by plan sponsors.¹⁰

Pharmacy Benefit Managers

Many public and private employers and health plans contract with PBMs to help manage drug costs.¹¹ Some of the services provided by the PBMs include processing pharmacy claims; providing mail-order pharmacy services to their customers; negotiating rebates (discounts paid by a drug manufacturer to a PBM), developing pharmacy networks, creating drug formularies; reviewing drug utilization; and providing disease management.¹² Generally, a contract between a PBM and a health plan or an employer specifies the amount a plan or an employer will pay a PBM for brand name and generic drugs and specify certain savings guarantees.¹³ A recent report found that PBMs passed through 78 percent of manufacturer rebates to health plans in 2012 and 91 percent in 2016.¹⁴ For the same period, the report noted that manufacturer rebates grew from \$39.7 billion to \$89.5 billion, and played a growing role in partially offsetting increases in list prices, which the study noted have risen more quickly than overall retail prescription drug spending.¹⁵

In recent years, significant consolidations in the PBM industry have occurred. Further, many health insurers are acquiring PBMs. Many entities have cited reducing drug cost as a factor for

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ Pharmacy Benefit Managers and Their Role in Drug Spending (Apr. 22, 2019), <https://www.commonwealthfund.org/publications/explainer/2019/apr/pharmacy-benefit-managers-and-their-role-drug-spending> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

¹² *Supra* note 3.

¹³ *Policy Options To Help Self-Insured Employers Improve PBM Contracting Efficiency*, Health Affairs Blog, (May 29, 2019), <https://www.healthaffairs.org/doi/10.1377/hblog20190529.43197/full/> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

¹⁴ *Supra* note 4.

¹⁵ *Id.*

many of the acquisitions.¹⁶ In 2018, three PBMs processed about 75 percent of all equivalent prescription claims: CVS Health (including Caremark and Aetna), Express Scripts, and the OptumRx business of UnitedHealth.¹⁷ The following six PBMs handled more than 95 percent of the total U.S. equivalent prescription claims managed:

- CVS Caremark/Aetna, 30 percent;
- Express Scripts, 23 percent;
- OptumRx (UnitedHealth), 23 percent;
- Humana Pharmacy Solutions, seven percent;
- Medimpact Healthcare Systems, six percent; and
- Prime Therapeutics, six percent.¹⁸

Reimbursement of Pharmacies by PBMs

Generally, the maximum allowable cost (MAC) price represents the upper limit price that a plan will pay or reimburse for generic drugs and sometimes brand drugs that have generic versions available (multisource brands).¹⁹ A PBM can maintain multiple MAC lists, each tied to the requirements of a particular employee benefit plan or other payer.²⁰ A MAC pricing list is a cost management tool that is developed from a proprietary survey of wholesale prices existing in the marketplace, taking into account market share, inventory, reasonable profit margins, and other factors.²¹ One of the goals of the MAC pricing list is to ensure that the pharmacy or their buying groups are motivated to seek and purchase generic drugs at the lowest price.²² If a pharmacy procures a higher-priced product, the pharmacy may not make as much profit, or in some instances, may lose money on that specific purchase.²³

Retail Pharmacies

Independent pharmacies are a type of retail pharmacy with a physical store location—often in rural and underserved areas—that dispense medications to consumers, including both prescription and over-the-counter drugs.²⁴ Nationwide, the number of independent pharmacies in the United States continues to decline. In 2010, there were 23,106 independent pharmacies; by

¹⁶ Barlas, Stephen, Vertical Integration Heats Up in Drug Industry: Will Medication Price Hikes Cool Down as a Result? *Pharmacy & Therapeutics: a peer-reviewed journal for formulary management* vol. 43,1 (2018): 31-39, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5737250/> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

¹⁷ Drug Channels, CVS, Express Scripts, and the Evolution of the PBM Business Model (May 29, 2019), <https://www.drugchannels.net/2019/05/cvs-express-scripts-and-evolution-of.html> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

¹⁸ *Id.*

¹⁹ Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy, Maximum Allowable Cost (MAC) Pricing (May 22, 2019), <https://www.amcp.org/policy-advocacy/policy-advocacy-focus-areas/where-we-stand-position-statements/maximum-allowable-cost-mac-pricing> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

²⁰ Hyman, David, *The Unintended Consequences of Restrictions on the Use of Maximum Allowable Cost Programs ("MACs") for Pharmacy Reimbursement* (Apr. 2015), <https://www.pcmanet.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/hyman-mac-white-paper-april-2015.pdf> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021)

²¹ *Id.*

²² *Supra* note 18.

²³ *Id.*

²⁴ *Supra* note 3. In the report, an independent pharmacy means a pharmacy having one to three pharmacies under common ownership.

2017, that number had dropped to 21,909.²⁵ Independent community pharmacies represented an estimated 35 percent of all community pharmacies nationwide in 2019, and comprised a \$73.7 billion marketplace.²⁶

The decision of employers, HMOs, or insurers to contract with PBMs may shift business away from smaller, local retail pharmacies that are also known as independent pharmacies. Historically, independent pharmacies were important health care providers in their communities and their pharmacists had long-term relationships with their patients.²⁷ However, many independent pharmacies have closed in recent years because of the competition resulting from the proliferation of large, chain retail pharmacies²⁸ that can negotiate with PBMs at deeply discounted reimbursement levels based on large volume sales.

Further, innovations and greater competition in the pharmacy marketplace are occurring. In 2018, Amazon acquired PillPack, a mail-order pharmacy, which has pharmacy licenses in all 50 states.²⁹ Further, many digital pharmacies are entering the marketplace and focus on certain strategies, such as:

- Home delivery of individual prescriptions;
- Operating at least one brick-and mortar retail location (so that the pharmacy can remain in a PBM's network);
- Dispensing 30-day prescriptions, not 90-day maintenance prescriptions;
- Offering a mobile application so consumers can manage their account, order prescription refills, and schedule delivery; and
- Providing telehealth consultations with prescribers.³⁰

Federal Oversight of Health Insurance

On March 23, 2010, the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) was signed into law.³¹ Among its significant changes to the U.S. health insurance system are requirements for health insurers to make coverage available to all individuals and employers, without exclusions for preexisting medical conditions and without basing premiums on any health-related factors.³²

²⁵ Arnold, Karen, *Independent Pharmacies: Not Dead Yet*, (Jan. 12, 2019, vol. 163, issue 1) Drug Topics, Voice of the Pharmacist, <https://www.drugtopics.com/view/independent-pharmacies-not-dead-yet> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

²⁶ APhA, *National Community Pharmacists Association Releases 2020 Digest Report* (Oct. 22, 2020), <https://www.pharmacist.com/article/ncpa-releases-2020-digest-report> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

²⁷ Independent pharmacies are a type of retail pharmacy with a store-based location—often in rural and underserved areas—that dispense medications to consumers, including both prescription and over-the-counter drugs. See <http://www.gao.gov/assets/660/651631.pdf> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

²⁸ Such as Walmart, CVS, Walgreens, Publix or Kroger. See <https://www.beckershospitalreview.com/pharmacy/15-largest-pharmacies-in-the-us.html> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

²⁹ Garcia, Ahiz, *Amazon rolls out “Amazon Pharmacy” branding to PillPack*, CNN Business (Nov. 15, 2019), <https://www.cnn.com/2019/11/15/tech/amazon-pharmacy-pillpack/index.html> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

³⁰ Drug Channels, *The Promise and Limits of Digital Pharmacies* (Feb. 16, 2021), <https://www.drugchannels.net/2021/02/the-promise-and-limits-of-digital.html> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

³¹ Pub. L. 111–148 was enacted on March 23, 2010. The Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (Pub. L. 111–152), which amended and revised several provisions of the PPACA, was enacted on March 30, 2010. The two laws are collectively referred to as the “Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.” See <https://www.healthcare.gov/where-can-i-read-the-affordable-care-act/> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

³² Most of the insurance regulatory provisions in PPACA amend Title XXVII of the Public Health Service Act (PHSA), (42 U.S.C. s. 300gg et seq.).

The PPACA imposes many other requirements on qualified health plans offered by individual and group plans, including required benefits, reporting of medical loss ratios, and internal and external appeals of adverse benefit determinations.³³

Medical Loss Ratios, Rebates, and Spread Pricing

If an insurer or HMO spends less than 80 percent in the individual or small group market (85 percent in the large group market) of premium on medical care and efforts to improve the quality of care, they must refund the portion of premium that exceeds this limit.³⁴ The 80 percent (or 85 percent) is the medical loss ratio (MLR). The PBMs must report rebate information to the health insurers and HMOs, and the insurer or HMO includes this information as a deduction from the amount of incurred claims in the MLR reporting to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).³⁵

Insurer Reporting of Health Plan Spending on Drugs

Beginning in 2021, federal law requires a group health plan or health insurance issuer offering group or individual health insurance coverage to report to the Secretary of the Department of Labor and the Secretary of the Department of Treasury the following information with respect to the health plan or coverage in the previous plan year:

- The 50 brand prescription drugs most frequently dispensed and the total number of paid claims for each drug;
- The 50 most costly prescription drugs by total annual spending;
- The 50 prescription drugs with the greatest increase in plan expenditures over the preceding plan year;
- Total spending on health care services by such plan or coverage, categorized by type of costs, including hospital, health care provider, clinical services, prescription drugs, and other medical costs;
- Spending on prescription drugs by the plan or coverage, and the enrollees;
- Average monthly premium paid by the employer and by participants and beneficiaries; and
- Impact of rebates, fees and other remuneration paid by drug manufacturers on premiums and out-of-pocket costs.³⁶

Oversight of Health Insurers, HMOs, and PBMs in Florida

Insurers and HMOs

The Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR) licenses and regulates insurers, HMOs, and other risk-bearing entities.³⁷ To operate in Florida, an insurer or HMO must obtain a certificate of authority from the OIR.³⁸

³³ *Id.*

³⁴ 45 CFR 158.210 and 158.211.

³⁵ 42 U.S.C. s. 2718.

³⁶ Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021, Title II (H.R. 133), Public L. No. 116-260 (Dec. 27, 2020). See <https://www.congress.gov/116/bills/hr133/BILLS-116hr133enr.pdf> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

³⁷ Section 20.121(3)(a)1., F.S.

³⁸ Sections 624.401 and 641.21(1), F.S.

Oversight of PBMs

A PBM is a person or entity doing business in Florida, which contracts to administer prescription drug benefits on behalf of a health insurer or an HMO to residents of Florida.³⁹ The PBMs are required to register with the OIR.⁴⁰ The registration process requires an applicant to remit a nonrefundable fee not to exceed \$500, a copy of certain corporate documents, and a completed registration form. Registration and registration renewal certificates are valid for two years and are nontransferable.⁴¹

The Insurance Code⁴² mandates that contracts between health insurers or HMOs and PBMs contain certain provisions. However, there is no statutory penalty if the PBM does not comply with these contractual provisions. These mandatory contractual provisions require the PBM to:

- Update the maximum allowable cost (MAC) pricing information at least once every seven calendar days;
- Maintain a process that will eliminate drugs from the MAC lists or modify drug prices in a timely manner to remain consistent with changes in pricing data;
- Not limit a pharmacist’s ability to disclose whether the cost-sharing obligation exceeds the retail price for a covered prescription drug, and the availability of a more affordable alternative drug, pursuant to s. 465.0244, F.S.; and
- Not require an insured to pay for a prescription drug at the point of sale in an amount that exceeds the lesser of:
 - The applicable cost sharing amount; or
 - The retail price of the drug in the absence of prescription drug coverage.

Maximum Allowable Cost. Current law defines the term, “maximum allowable cost” (MAC) as the per-unit amount that a PBM reimburses a pharmacist for a prescription drug, excluding dispensing fees, prior to the application of copayments, coinsurance, and other cost-sharing charges, if any.⁴³

Payment of claims. Current law requires a PBM, acting on behalf of an insurer or HMO, to pay a provider’s claim within a prescribed time.⁴⁴ Further, the Department of Financial Services reviews alleged violations, relating to claims of providers not paid or denied by the insurer or HMO.⁴⁵

Florida Pharmacy Audits

Pursuant to ch. 465, F.S., the Florida Pharmacy Act, a “pharmacy” includes a community pharmacy, an institutional pharmacy, a nuclear pharmacy, a special pharmacy, and an Internet pharmacy. The term “community pharmacy” includes every location where medicinal drugs are

³⁹ Section 624.490, F.S.

⁴⁰ *Id.*

⁴¹ Office of Insurance Regulation, *Registration Form for Pharmacy Benefit Managers*, <https://www.floir.com/siteDocuments/AllFormsPBM.pdf> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021). The current registration fee is \$5.

⁴² Sections 627.64741, 627.6572, and 641.314, F.S.

⁴³ *Id.*

⁴⁴ Sections 627.6131 and 641.3155, F.S.

⁴⁵ Department of Financial Services, Division of Consumer Services, *Medical Provider Informational Memorandum* at <https://apps.fldfs.com/eservice/MedicalProvider.aspx> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

compounded, dispensed, stored, or sold or where prescriptions are filled or dispensed on an outpatient basis.⁴⁶ The term, “independent pharmacy,” is not defined.

Pharmacies are subject to routine audits by an insurer, HMO, or a PBM acting on behalf of an insurer or HMO. Audits of pharmacies are conducted to determine compliance with respect to billing, reimbursement, and other contractual requirements.⁴⁷ Section 465.1885, F.S., prescribes the following rights of a pharmacy in connection with an audit conducted directly or indirectly by an insurance company, a managed care company, or a PBM:

- To be notified at least seven calendar days before the initial onsite audit;
- To have the onsite audit scheduled after the first three calendar days of a month unless the pharmacist consents otherwise;
- To have the audit period limited to 24 months after the date a claim is submitted to or adjudicated by the entity;
- To have an audit that requires clinical or professional judgment conducted by or in consultation with a pharmacist;
- To use the written and verifiable records of a hospital, physician, or other authorized practitioner, which are transmitted by any means of communication, to validate the pharmacy records in accordance with state and federal law;
- To be reimbursed for a claim that was retroactively denied for a clerical error, typographical error, scrivener’s error, or computer error if the prescription was properly and correctly dispensed, unless a pattern of such errors exists, fraudulent billing is alleged, or the error results in actual financial loss to the entity;
- To receive the preliminary audit report within 120 days after the conclusion of the audit;
- To produce documentation to address a discrepancy or audit finding within 10 business days after the preliminary audit report is delivered to the pharmacy;
- To receive the final audit report within 6 months after receiving the preliminary audit report; and
- To have recoupment or penalties based on actual overpayments and not according to the accounting practice of extrapolation.⁴⁸

However, neither the Department of Health nor the Board of Pharmacy has authority under ch. 465, F.S., the Florida Pharmacy Act, to enforce these provisions against any entity not complying with these requirements.

Statewide Provider and Health Plan Claim Dispute Resolution Program

The Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA), administers the Statewide Provider and Health Plan Claim Dispute Resolution Program, which assists contracted and noncontracted providers and health plans to resolve claim disputes that are not resolved by the provider and the health plan.⁴⁹ The AHCA contracts with an independent dispute resolution organization to assist health care providers and health plans in order to resolve claim disputes. These services are

⁴⁶ Section 465.003(11), F.S.

⁴⁷ JD Supra, *Pharmacy Compliance: Will Your Pharmacy’s Policies and Protocols Withstand a DEA or PBM Audit?* (Aug. 3, 2020), <https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/pharmacy-compliance-will-your-pharmacy-78764/> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

⁴⁸ Section 465.188, F.S., prescribes the rights of a pharmacy in connection with a Medicaid audit.

⁴⁹ Section 408.7057, F.S.

available to Medicaid managed care providers and health plans. Claims submitted to managed care plans that have been denied in full or in part, or allegedly underpaid or overpaid, may be eligible for dispute under the arbitration process.⁵⁰

State Group Insurance Program

Under the authority of s. 110.123, F.S., the Department of Management Services (department), through the Division of State Group Insurance (DSGI), administers the state group insurance program under a cafeteria plan consistent with s. 125, Internal Revenue Code, to provide medical and prescription drug benefits for state employees and state university employees. To administer the program, the department contracts with third-party administrators for self-insured health plans, fully insured HMOs, and a PBM for the self-insured State Employees' Prescription Drug Program pursuant to s. 110.12315, F.S. The current PBM for the state employees' prescription drug plan is CaremarkPCS Health, LLC (CVS Caremark).⁵¹

Recent U.S. Supreme Court Decision

In 2015, Arkansas enacted a law, Senate Bill 688, Act 900 of the Regular Session (Act),⁵² which effectively requires PBMs to reimburse Arkansas pharmacies at a price equal to or higher than the pharmacy's acquisition cost. To accomplish this result, the law requires PBMs to update their MAC lists in a timely manner when drug prices increase, and to provide pharmacies with an administrative appeal process to challenge MAC reimbursement rates that are below the pharmacies' acquisition costs.⁵³ If a pharmacy could not have acquired the drug at a lower price from its typical wholesaler, a PBM must increase its reimbursement rate to cover the pharmacy's acquisition cost.⁵⁴ A PBM must also allow pharmacies to "reverse and rebill" each reimbursement claim affected by the pharmacy's inability to procure the drug from its typical wholesaler at a price equal to or less than the MAC reimbursement price.⁵⁵ Lastly, the Act allows a pharmacy to decline to sell a drug to a consumer if the relevant PBM will reimburse the pharmacy at less than its acquisition cost.⁵⁶

In late 2020, the U.S. Supreme Court decided that Arkansas' law regulating PBMs was not preempted by the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA),⁵⁷ because the Arkansas law has neither an impermissible connection with nor reference to ERISA⁵⁸ and is, therefore, not preempted.⁵⁹

⁵⁰ *Id.*

⁵¹ Department of Management Services, Division of State Group Insurance, *2021 Benefits State Employees' Prescription Drug Plan*, https://www.mybenefits.myflorida.com/content/download/150426/1002145/2021_CVS_Caremark_Brochure.pdf (last visited Mar. 10, 2021)

⁵² AR SB 688, 2015 90th General Assembly (Apr. 2, 2015). Act 900, 2015 Session. *See* <https://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/Acts/Document?type=pdf&act=900&ddBienniumSession=2015%2F2015R> (last visited Mar. 22, 2021).

⁵³ Arkansas Code 17-92-507 (2019 Supp.).

⁵⁴ Section 17-92-507(c)(4)(C)(i)(b) (Supp. 2019).

⁵⁵ Section 17-92-507(c)(4)(C)(iii) (Supp. 2019).

⁵⁶ Section 17-92-507(e) (Supp. 2019).

⁵⁷ 88 Stat. 829, as amended, 29 U. S. C. s. 1001 *et seq.*

⁵⁸ 29 U. S. C. s. 1144(a).

⁵⁹ *Rutledge v. Pharmaceutical Care Management Assn.*, 592 U.S. ____ (2020) [No. 18-540 (Dec. 10, 2020)].

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 624.3161, F.S., to authorize the Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR) to conduct market conduct examinations of pharmacy benefits managers (PBMs). This section currently authorizes the OIR to examine insurers and Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs).

Section 2 transfers s. 465.1885, F.S., renumbers the section as s. 624.491, F.S., and amends the section to clarify the existing rights of a pharmacy, relating to a pharmacy audit, are statutory requirements for an insurer or HMO or any entity acting on behalf of the insurer or HMO, including, but not limited to, a PBM conducting a pharmacy audit. The section specifies:

- Limits on when audits can be conducted;
- Audit periods;
- Use of a consulting pharmacist;
- Use of written and verifiable records of health care providers to validate pharmacy records;
- Retroactive reimbursement for claims denied for certain errors;
- The timeframe for the provision of preliminary audits;
- Allowance for production of preliminary documentation to rebut an audit finding;
- Time period for production of the final audit; and
- Methodology for calculating final recoupment and penalties.

The section allows a pharmacy to appeal claim payments due because of an audit with the Statewide Provider and Health Plan Claim Dispute Resolution Program at the Agency for Health Care Administration pursuant to s. 408.7057, F.S.

Sections 3, 4, 5, and 6 amend s. 627.64741, 627.6572, 627.6699, and 641.314, F.S., respectively, relating to individual health insurance policies, large and small group health insurance policies, and HMO contracts.

The bill prohibits an insurer or HMO from contracting with a PBM, unless the PBM:

- Updates its maximum allowable cost (MAC) information at least every seven days;
- Maintains a process that, in a timely manner, will eliminate drugs from MAC lists or modify drug prices to remain consistent with changes in pricing data used in formulating MAC prices and product availability;
- Does not limit a pharmacist's ability to disclose whether the cost-sharing obligation exceeds the retail price for a covered prescription drug and the availability of a more affordable alternative drug; and
- Does not require an insured to make a payment for a prescription drug in an amount that exceeds the lesser of the applicable cost-sharing amount or the retail price of the drug.

Under current law, an insurer or HMO must include these provisions in any contract with a PBM. However, there is no statutory penalties for a PBM's noncompliance with these provisions.

The sections also provide that the OIR may require any health insurer or HMO to submit any PBM contract or amendment for the administration of pharmacy benefits to the OIR for review.

After review of the contract, the OIR may order the health insurer or HMO to cancel the contract in accordance with the contract terms and applicable law if any of the following conditions exist:

- The contract does not comply with the Florida Insurance Code.
- The PBM is not registered with the OIR pursuant to s. 624.490, F.S.

Under current law, s. 641.234, F.S., authorizes the OIR to require an HMO to submit any contract for administrative services, contract with a provider other than an individual physician, contract for management services, and contract with an affiliated entity to the OIR. After review of a contract, the OIR may order the HMO to cancel the contract in accordance with the terms of the contract and applicable law if:

- The fees to be paid by the health maintenance organization under the contract are so unreasonably high as compared with similar contracts entered into by the HMO or as compared with similar contracts entered into by other HMOs in similar circumstances that the contract is detrimental to the subscribers, stockholders, investors, or creditors of the HMO; or
- The contract is with an entity that is not licensed under state statutes, if such license is required, or is not in good standing with the applicable regulatory agency.

Section 7 provides that this bill takes effect July 1, 2021.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

D. State Tax or Fee Increases:

None.

E. Other Constitutional Issues:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

The bill clarifies statutory provisions relating to pharmacy audits to impose audit requirements rather than rights, which will provide greater transparency regarding the audit process. The bill provides pharmacies with a process to appeal pharmacy benefits managers (PBMs) audit filings related to claim payments with the Statewide Provider and Health Plan Claim Dispute Resolution Program.

Since the bill authorizes the Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR) to conduct market conduct examinations of PBMs, the bill will increase the administrative costs of health insurers, Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs), and PBMs to the extent PBMs are examined. Entities examined by the OIR are responsible for the payment of the examination expenses.⁶⁰

C. Government Sector Impact:**Office of Insurance Regulation⁶¹**

According to the OIR, the bill will have a negative fiscal impact of \$100,000 to \$200,000 on a recurring basis. The OIR would incur costs associated with obtaining pharmacy-related training or contracting with a pharmacist in order to provide effective oversight of PBM market conduct examinations and respond to any complaints involving pharmacy audits. The minimum estimated cost to contract with a pharmacist would be \$100,000 - \$200,000 (Contracted Services).

Department of Management Services/Division of State Group Insurance⁶²

The costs of a PBM market conduct examination conducted by the OIR could result in an indeterminate increase in administrative costs of the program's PBM. These costs could be recouped from individuals enrolled in the Division of State Group Insurance program.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 624.3161, 465.1885, 627.64741, 627.6572, 627.6699, and 641.314.

⁶⁰ Section 624.6131(4), F.S.

⁶¹ Office of Insurance Regulation, *2021 Legislative Session, Analysis SB 390* (Jan. 4, 2021).

⁶² Department of Management Services, *2021 Agency Legislative Bill Analysis of SB 390* (Feb. 19, 2021).

This bill transfers, renumbers to section 624.491 and amends, section 465.1885 of the Florida Statutes.

IX. Additional Information:

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

CS by Banking and Insurance Committee on March 16, 2021:

The CS makes the following changes:

- Eliminates changes to the definition of maximum allowable cost.
- Revises conditions in which the Office of Insurance Regulation (OIR) may cancel contracts of insurers or Health Maintenance Organizations (HMOs) with pharmacy benefits managers (PBMs) by eliminating the ability of the OIR to cancel because the fees paid by the insurer or HMO are so unreasonably high, as compared with contracts entered into by other insurers or HMOs in similar circumstances, that the contract is detrimental to policyholders or subscribers of the insurer or HMO, respectively.

- B. **Amendments:**

None.



279254

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: WD	.	
04/13/2021	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Environment, and
General Government (Thurston) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment

Between lines 188 and 189
insert:

(a) The fees to be paid by the insurer are so unreasonably
high as compared with similar contracts entered into by
insurers, or as compared with similar contracts entered into by
other insurers in similar circumstances, that the contract is
detrimental to the policyholders of the insurer.

Between lines 246 and 247



279254

11 insert:

12 (a) The fees to be paid by the insurer are so unreasonably
13 high as compared with similar contracts entered into by
14 insurers, or as compared with similar contracts entered into by
15 other insurers in similar circumstances, that the contract is
16 detrimental to the policyholders of the insurer.

17 Between lines 314 and 315

18 insert:

19 (a) The fees to be paid by the health maintenance
20 organization are so unreasonably high as compared with similar
21 contracts entered into by health maintenance organizations, or
22 as compared with similar contracts entered into by other health
23 maintenance organizations in similar circumstances, that the
24 contract is detrimental to the subscribers of the health
25 maintenance organization.

By the Committee on Banking and Insurance; and Senator Wright

597-02931-21

2021390c1

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to prescription drug coverage;
 3 amending s. 624.3161, F.S.; authorizing the Office of
 4 Insurance Regulation to examine pharmacy benefit
 5 managers; specifying that certain examination costs
 6 are payable by persons examined; transferring,
 7 renumbering, and amending s. 465.1885, F.S.; revising
 8 the entities conducting pharmacy audits to which
 9 certain requirements and restrictions apply;
 10 authorizing audited pharmacies to appeal certain
 11 findings; providing that health insurers and health
 12 maintenance organizations that transfer a certain
 13 payment obligation to pharmacy benefit managers remain
 14 responsible for certain violations; amending ss.
 15 627.64741 and 627.6572, F.S.; authorizing the office
 16 to require health insurers to submit to the office
 17 certain contracts or contract amendments entered into
 18 with pharmacy benefit managers; authorizing the office
 19 to order health insurers to cancel such contracts
 20 under certain circumstances; authorizing the
 21 commission to adopt rules; revising applicability;
 22 amending s. 627.6699, F.S.; requiring certain health
 23 benefit plans covering small employers to comply with
 24 certain provisions; amending s. 641.314, F.S.;
 25 authorizing the office to require health maintenance
 26 organizations to submit to the office certain
 27 contracts or contract amendments entered into with
 28 pharmacy benefit managers; authorizing the office to
 29 order health maintenance organizations to cancel such

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30 contracts under certain circumstances; authorizing the
 31 commission to adopt rules; revising applicability;
 32 providing an effective date.
 33
 34 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
 35
 36 Section 1. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 624.3161,
 37 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 38 624.3161 Market conduct examinations.—
 39 (1) As often as it deems necessary, the office shall
 40 examine each pharmacy benefit manager as defined in s. 624.490;
 41 each licensed rating organization;~~7~~ each advisory organization;~~7~~
 42 each group, association, carrier; as defined in s. 440.02, or
 43 other organization of insurers which engages in joint
 44 underwriting or joint reinsurance;~~7~~ and each authorized insurer
 45 transacting in this state any class of insurance to which the
 46 provisions of chapter 627 are applicable. The examination shall
 47 be for the purpose of ascertaining compliance by the person
 48 examined with the applicable provisions of chapters 440, 624,
 49 626, 627, and 635.
 50 (3) The examination may be conducted by an independent
 51 professional examiner under contract to the office, in which
 52 case payment shall be made directly to the contracted examiner
 53 by the insurer or person examined in accordance with the rates
 54 and terms agreed to by the office and the examiner.
 55 Section 2. Section 465.1885, Florida Statutes, is
 56 transferred, renumbered as section 624.491, Florida Statutes,
 57 and amended to read:
 58 624.491 ~~465.1885~~ Pharmacy audits; ~~rights.~~—

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59 (1) A health insurer or health maintenance organization
 60 providing pharmacy benefits through a major medical individual
 61 or group health insurance policy or a health maintenance
 62 organization contract, respectively, shall comply with the
 63 requirements of this section when the insurer or health
 64 maintenance organization or any person or entity acting on
 65 behalf of the insurer or health maintenance organization,
 66 including, but not limited to, a pharmacy benefit manager as
 67 defined in s. 624.490, audits the records of a pharmacy licensed
 68 under chapter 465. The person or entity conducting such audit
 69 must if an audit of the records of a pharmacy licensed under
 70 this chapter is conducted directly or indirectly by a managed
 71 care company, an insurance company, a third party payor, a
 72 pharmacy benefit manager, or an entity that represents
 73 responsible parties such as companies or groups, referred to as
 74 an "entity" in this section, the pharmacy has the following
 75 rights:

76 (a) Except as provided in subsection (3), notify the
 77 pharmacy ~~To be notified~~ at least 7 calendar days before the
 78 initial onsite audit for each audit cycle.

79 (b) Not schedule an ~~To have the~~ onsite audit during
 80 ~~scheduled after~~ the first 3 calendar days of a month unless the
 81 pharmacist consents otherwise.

82 (c) Limit the duration of ~~To have~~ the audit period limited
 83 to 24 months after the date a claim is submitted to or
 84 adjudicated by the entity.

85 (d) In the case of ~~To have~~ an audit that requires clinical
 86 or professional judgment, conduct the audit in consultation
 87 with, or allow the audit to be conducted by, ~~or in consultation~~

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88 ~~with~~ a pharmacist.

89 (e) Allow the pharmacy to use the written and verifiable
 90 records of a hospital, physician, or other authorized
 91 practitioner, which are transmitted by any means of
 92 communication, to validate the pharmacy records in accordance
 93 with state and federal law.

94 (f) Reimburse the pharmacy ~~To be reimbursed~~ for a claim
 95 that was retroactively denied for a clerical error,
 96 typographical error, scrivener's error, or computer error if the
 97 prescription was properly and correctly dispensed, unless a
 98 pattern of such errors exists, fraudulent billing is alleged, or
 99 the error results in actual financial loss to the entity.

100 (g) Provide the pharmacy with a copy of ~~To receive~~ the
 101 preliminary audit report within 120 days after the conclusion of
 102 the audit.

103 (h) Allow the pharmacy to produce documentation to address
 104 a discrepancy or audit finding within 10 business days after the
 105 preliminary audit report is delivered to the pharmacy.

106 (i) Provide the pharmacy with a copy of ~~To receive~~ the
 107 final audit report within 6 months after receipt of ~~receiving~~
 108 the preliminary audit report.

109 (j) Calculate any ~~To have~~ recoupment or penalties based on
 110 actual overpayments and not according to the accounting practice
 111 of extrapolation.

112 (2) ~~The rights contained in~~ This section does ~~de~~ not apply
 113 to:

114 (a) Audits in which suspected fraudulent activity or other
 115 intentional or willful misrepresentation is evidenced by a
 116 physical review, review of claims data or statements, or other

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2021390c1

117 investigative methods;

118 (b) Audits of claims paid for by federally funded programs;
119 or

120 (c) Concurrent reviews or desk audits that occur within 3
121 business days ~~after~~ ~~of~~ transmission of a claim and where no
122 chargeback or recoupment is demanded.

123 (3) An entity that audits a pharmacy located within a
124 Health Care Fraud Prevention and Enforcement Action Team (HEAT)
125 Task Force area designated by the United States Department of
126 Health and Human Services and the United States Department of
127 Justice may dispense with the notice requirements of paragraph

128 (1) (a) if such pharmacy has been a member of a credentialed
129 provider network for less than 12 months.

130 (4) Pursuant to s. 408.7057, and after receipt of the final
131 audit report issued by the health insurer or health maintenance
132 organization, a pharmacy may appeal the findings of the final
133 audit as to whether a claim payment is due and as to the amount
134 of a claim payment.

135 (5) A health insurer or health maintenance organization
136 that, under terms of a contract, transfers to a pharmacy benefit
137 manager the obligation to pay any pharmacy licensed under
138 chapter 465 for any pharmacy benefit claims arising from
139 services provided to or for the benefit of any insured or
140 subscriber remains responsible for any violations of this
141 section, s. 627.6131, or s. 641.3155, as applicable.

142 Section 3. Section 627.64741, Florida Statutes, is amended
143 to read:

144 627.64741 Pharmacy benefit manager contracts.—

145 (1) As used in this section, the term:

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146 (a) "Maximum allowable cost" means the per-unit amount that
147 a pharmacy benefit manager reimburses a pharmacist for a
148 prescription drug, excluding dispensing fees, prior to the
149 application of copayments, coinsurance, and other cost-sharing
150 charges, if any.

151 (b) "Pharmacy benefit manager" means a person or entity
152 doing business in this state which contracts to administer or
153 manage prescription drug benefits on behalf of a health insurer
154 to residents of this state.

155 (2) A health insurer may contract only with a pharmacy
156 benefit manager that satisfies all of the following conditions ~~A~~
157 ~~contract between a health insurer and a pharmacy benefit manager~~
158 ~~must require that the pharmacy benefit manager:~~

159 (a) Updates ~~Update~~ maximum allowable cost pricing
160 information at least every 7 calendar days.

161 (b) Maintains ~~Maintain~~ a process that will, in a timely
162 manner, will eliminate drugs from maximum allowable cost lists
163 or modify drug prices to remain consistent with changes in
164 pricing data used in formulating maximum allowable cost prices
165 and product availability.

166 (c)(3) Does not limit ~~A contract between a health insurer~~
167 ~~and a pharmacy benefit manager must prohibit the pharmacy~~
168 ~~benefit manager from limiting~~ a pharmacist's ability to disclose
169 whether the cost-sharing obligation exceeds the retail price for
170 a covered prescription drug, and the availability of a more
171 affordable alternative drug, pursuant to s. 465.0244.

172 (d)(4) Does not require ~~A contract between a health insurer~~
173 ~~and a pharmacy benefit manager must prohibit the pharmacy~~
174 ~~benefit manager from requiring~~ an insured to make a payment for

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175 a prescription drug at the point of sale in an amount that
176 exceeds the lesser of:

- 177 ~~1.(a)~~ The applicable cost-sharing amount; or
178 ~~2.(b)~~ The retail price of the drug in the absence of
179 prescription drug coverage.

180 (3) The office may require a health insurer to submit to
181 the office any contract or amendments to a contract for the
182 administration or management of prescription drug benefits by a
183 pharmacy benefit manager on behalf of the insurer.

184 (4) After review of a contract submitted under subsection
185 (3), the office may order the insurer to cancel the contract in
186 accordance with the terms of the contract and applicable law if
187 the office determines that any of the following conditions
188 exist:

189 (a) The contract does not comply with this section or any
190 other provision of the Florida Insurance Code.

191 (b) The pharmacy benefit manager is not registered with the
192 office as required under s. 624.490.

193 (5) The commission may adopt rules to administer this
194 section.

195 ~~(6)(5)~~ This section applies to contracts entered into,
196 amended, or renewed on or after July 1, ~~2021~~ 2018. All contracts
197 entered into or renewed between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2021,
198 are governed by the law in effect at the time the contract was
199 entered into or renewed.

200 Section 4. Section 627.6572, Florida Statutes, is amended
201 to read:

202 627.6572 Pharmacy benefit manager contracts.—

203 (1) As used in this section, the term:

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204 (a) "Maximum allowable cost" means the per-unit amount that
205 a pharmacy benefit manager reimburses a pharmacist for a
206 prescription drug, excluding dispensing fees, prior to the
207 application of copayments, coinsurance, and other cost-sharing
208 charges, if any.

209 (b) "Pharmacy benefit manager" means a person or entity
210 doing business in this state which contracts to administer or
211 manage prescription drug benefits on behalf of a health insurer
212 to residents of this state.

213 (2) A health insurer may contract only with a pharmacy
214 benefit manager that satisfies all of the following conditions A
215 ~~contract between a health insurer and a pharmacy benefit manager~~
216 ~~must require that the pharmacy benefit manager:~~

217 (a) ~~Updates~~ Update maximum allowable cost pricing
218 information at least every 7 calendar days.

219 (b) ~~Maintains~~ Maintain a process that ~~will~~, in a timely
220 manner, will eliminate drugs from maximum allowable cost lists
221 or modify drug prices to remain consistent with changes in
222 pricing data used in formulating maximum allowable cost prices
223 and product availability.

224 ~~(c)(3) Does not limit~~ A contract between a health insurer
225 ~~and a pharmacy benefit manager must prohibit the pharmacy~~
226 ~~benefit manager from limiting~~ a pharmacist's ability to disclose
227 whether the cost-sharing obligation exceeds the retail price for
228 a covered prescription drug, and the availability of a more
229 affordable alternative drug, pursuant to s. 465.0244.

230 ~~(d)(4) Does not require~~ A contract between a health insurer
231 ~~and a pharmacy benefit manager must prohibit the pharmacy~~
232 ~~benefit manager from requiring~~ an insured to make a payment for

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233 a prescription drug at the point of sale in an amount that
234 exceeds the lesser of:

235 ~~1.(a)~~ The applicable cost-sharing amount; or
236 ~~2.(b)~~ The retail price of the drug in the absence of
237 prescription drug coverage.

238 (3) The office may require a health insurer to submit to
239 the office any contract or amendments to a contract for the
240 administration or management of prescription drug benefits by a
241 pharmacy benefit manager on behalf of the insurer.

242 (4) After review of a contract submitted under subsection
243 (3), the office may order the insurer to cancel the contract in
244 accordance with the terms of the contract and applicable law if
245 the office determines that any of the following conditions
246 exist:

247 (a) The contract does not comply with this section or any
248 other provision of the Florida Insurance Code.

249 (b) The pharmacy benefit manager is not registered with the
250 office as required under s. 624.490.

251 (5) The commission may adopt rules to administer this
252 section.

253 ~~(6)(5)~~ This section applies to contracts entered into,
254 amended, or renewed on or after July 1, 2021 ~~2018~~. All contracts
255 entered into or renewed between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2021,
256 are governed by the law in effect at the time the contract was
257 entered into or renewed.

258 Section 5. Paragraph (h) is added to subsection (5) of
259 section 627.6699, Florida Statutes, to read:

260 627.6699 Employee Health Care Access Act.—

261 (5) AVAILABILITY OF COVERAGE.—

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262 (h) A health benefit plan covering small employers which is
263 issued or renewed in this state on or after July 1, 2021, must
264 comply with s. 627.6572.

265 Section 6. Section 641.314, Florida Statutes, is amended to
266 read:

267 641.314 Pharmacy benefit manager contracts.—

268 (1) As used in this section, the term:

269 (a) "Maximum allowable cost" means the per-unit amount that
270 a pharmacy benefit manager reimburses a pharmacist for a
271 prescription drug, excluding dispensing fees, prior to the
272 application of copayments, coinsurance, and other cost-sharing
273 charges, if any.

274 (b) "Pharmacy benefit manager" means a person or entity
275 doing business in this state which contracts to administer or
276 manage prescription drug benefits on behalf of a health
277 maintenance organization to residents of this state.

278 (2) A health maintenance organization may contract only
279 with a pharmacy benefit manager that satisfies all of the
280 following conditions ~~A contract between a health maintenance~~
281 ~~organization and a pharmacy benefit manager must require that~~
282 ~~the pharmacy benefit manager:~~

283 (a) Updates ~~Update~~ maximum allowable cost pricing
284 information at least every 7 calendar days.

285 (b) Maintains ~~Maintain~~ a process that ~~will~~, in a timely
286 manner, will eliminate drugs from maximum allowable cost lists
287 or modify drug prices to remain consistent with changes in
288 pricing data used in formulating maximum allowable cost prices
289 and product availability.

290 ~~(c)(3) Does not limit A contract between a health~~

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291 ~~maintenance organization and a pharmacy benefit manager must~~
 292 ~~prohibit the pharmacy benefit manager from limiting a~~
 293 ~~pharmacist's ability to disclose whether the cost-sharing~~
 294 ~~obligation exceeds the retail price for a covered prescription~~
 295 ~~drug, and the availability of a more affordable alternative~~
 296 ~~drug, pursuant to s. 465.0244.~~

297 ~~(d)(4) Does not require A contract between a health~~
 298 ~~maintenance organization and a pharmacy benefit manager must~~
 299 ~~prohibit the pharmacy benefit manager from requiring a~~
 300 ~~subscriber to make a payment for a prescription drug at the~~
 301 ~~point of sale in an amount that exceeds the lesser of:~~

302 ~~1.(a) The applicable cost-sharing amount; or~~

303 ~~2.(b) The retail price of the drug in the absence of~~
 304 ~~prescription drug coverage.~~

305 (3) The office may require a health maintenance
 306 organization to submit to the office any contract or amendments
 307 to a contract for the administration or management of
 308 prescription drug benefits by a pharmacy benefit manager on
 309 behalf of the health maintenance organization.

310 (4) After review of a contract submitted under subsection
 311 (3), the office may order the health maintenance organization to
 312 cancel the contract in accordance with the terms of the contract
 313 and applicable law if the office determines that any of the
 314 following conditions exist:

315 (a) The contract does not comply with this section or any
 316 other provision of the Florida Insurance Code.

317 (b) The pharmacy benefit manager is not registered with the
 318 office as required under s. 624.490.

319 (5) The commission may adopt rules to administer this

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320 section.

321 (6)(5) This section applies to pharmacy benefit manager
 322 contracts entered into, amended, or renewed on or after July 1,
 323 2021 ~~2018~~. All contracts entered into or renewed between July 1,
 324 2018, and June 30, 2021, are governed by the law in effect at
 325 the time the contract was entered into or renewed.

326 Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.

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THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

13 April 2021

Meeting Date

390

Bill Number (if applicable)

279254

Topic Prescription Drug Coverage

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Barney Bishop III

Job Title _____

Address 2215 Thomasville Road

Phone 850.510.9922

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32308

Email Barney@BarneyBishop.com

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing SPAR - Small Business Pharmacies Aligned for Reform

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

4/13/21
Meeting Date

390
Bill Number (if applicable)
279254
Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Topic Prescription Drug Coverage

Name Claudia Dawant

Job Title lobbyist

Address 205 S. Adams St

Phone 850-567-0979

Street

Tallahassee

FL
State

32331
Zip

Email _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida Pharmacy Association

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

YOU MUST PRINT AND DELIVER THIS FORM TO THE ASSIGNED TESTIMONY ROOM

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

4/13/21

Meeting Date

390

Bill Number (if applicable)

279254

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Topic Pharmacy Benefit Manager Reform

Name Jeff Kottkamp

Job Title _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Street

Tallahassee

Florida

City

State

Zip

Email JeffKottkamp@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Small business Pharmacies Aligned for Reform (SPAR)

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

YOU MUST PRINT AND DELIVER THIS FORM TO THE ASSIGNED TESTIMONY ROOM

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

4/13/2021

Meeting Date

390

Bill Number (if applicable)

279254

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Topic Prescription Drug Coverage

Name Michael Cantens

Job Title _____

Address 2000 Ponce de Leon Blvd

Street

Phone _____

Coral Gables

FL

33134

Email michael@theflaglergroup.co

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Pharmaceutical Care Management Associatin (PCMA)

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

YOU MUST PRINT AND DELIVER THIS FORM TO THE ASSIGNED TESTIMONY ROOM

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

April 13, 2021

Meeting Date

CS/SB390

Bill Number (if applicable)

279254

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Topic Prescription Drug Coverage

Name Michael Jackson

Job Title Executive Vice President and CEO

Address 610 North Adams Street

Street

Tallahassee

City

Florida

State

32301

Zip

Phone (850) 222-2400

Email jackson@pharmview.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida Pharmacy Association

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

13
4/8/21

Meeting Date

~~13~~ 390

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic _____

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Chris Nuland

Job Title _____

Address 4427 Herschel St

Phone 904-233-3051

Street

Jacksonville, FL

Email nulandlaw@aol.com

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida Chapter, American College of Physicians

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

4/13/21

Meeting Date

390

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic 390 Prescription Drug Coverage

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Claudia Dawant

Job Title Lobbyist ~~Staff~~

Address 205 S. Adams St

Phone 850-567-0979

Street

Tallahassee

City

FL

State

32301

Zip

Email _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida Pharmacy Association

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/14/14)

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Reset Form

THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

13 April 2021

Meeting Date

390

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Pharmacy Health Care

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Cynthia Henderson

Job Title

Address 108 E Jefferson St, Suite A

Phone 850-559-0855

Street

Tallahassee, FL 32301

Email cyhenderson@me.com

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing EPIC Pharmacies

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/14/14)

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THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

4/13/21
Meeting Date

390
Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Prescription Drug Coverage

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Steve Winn

Job Title Executive Director

Address 2544 Blairstone Pines Dr
Street
Tallahassee FL 32301
City State Zip

Phone 878-7364

Email _____

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida Osteopathic Medical Association

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

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S-001 (10/14/14)

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THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

4/13/21

Meeting Date

390

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Pharmacy Benefit Manager Reform

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Jeff Kottkamp

Job Title

Address

Phone

Street

Tallahassee

Florida

City

State

Zip

Email JeffKottkamp@gmail.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Small business Pharmacies Aligned for Reform (SPAR)

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

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S-001 (10/14/14)

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THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

April 13, 2021

Meeting Date

CS/SB390

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Prescription Drug Coverage

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Michael Jackson

Job Title Executive Vice President and CEO

Address 610 North Adams Street

Phone (850) 222-2400

Street

Tallahassee

Florida

32301

Email jackson@pharmview.com

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing Florida Pharmacy Association

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/14/14)

THE FLORIDA SENATE
APPEARANCE RECORD

(Deliver BOTH copies of this form to the Senator or Senate Professional Staff conducting the meeting)

4-13-21

390

Meeting Date

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic PBM's

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Michael Fischer

Job Title _____

Address PO Box 1197

Phone 222-6344

Street Tallahassee FL 32302
City State Zip

Email mike@legisgroupfl.com

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing PPSC - Florida Independent Pharmacy Network

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

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S-001 (10/14/14)

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THE FLORIDA SENATE

APPEARANCE RECORD

!# April 2021

Meeting Date

390

Bill Number (if applicable)

Topic Prescription Drug Coverage

Amendment Barcode (if applicable)

Name Barney Bishop III

Job Title _____

Address 2215 Thomasville Road

Phone 850.510.9922

Street

Tallahassee

FL

32308

Email Barney@BarneyBishop.com

City

State

Zip

Speaking: For Against Information

Waive Speaking: In Support Against
(The Chair will read this information into the record.)

Representing SPAR - Small Business Pharmacies Aligned for Reform

Appearing at request of Chair: Yes No

Lobbyist registered with Legislature: Yes No

While it is a Senate tradition to encourage public testimony, time may not permit all persons wishing to speak to be heard at this meeting. Those who do speak may be asked to limit their remarks so that as many persons as possible can be heard.

This form is part of the public record for this meeting.

S-001 (10/14/14)



THE FLORIDA SENATE

Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100

COMMITTEES:
Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture,
Environment, and General Government
Education
Ethics and Elections
Finance and Tax
Transportation

SENATOR LORI BERMAN

31st District

April 13, 2021

Senator Ben Albritton, Chair
Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Environment & General Government
314 Senate Building
404 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399

Dear Chair Albritton,

Please record my vote on SB 390 as a "yay" due to my absence during today's Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Environment and General Government meeting. I apologize for missing most of the meeting as I was presenting another bill on behalf of Senator Baxley.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori Berman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Lori Berman

REPLY TO:

- 2300 High Ridge Road, Suite 161, Boynton Beach, Florida 33426 (561) 292-6014 FAX: (888) 284-6491
- 218 Senate Building, 404 South Monroe Street, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1100 (850) 487-5031

Senate's Website: www.flsenate.gov

WILTON SIMPSON
President of the Senate

AARON BEAN
President Pro Tempore

CourtSmart Tag Report

Room: SB 110

Case No.:

Type:

Caption: Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government **Judge:**

Started: 4/13/2021 2:01:55 PM

Ends: 4/13/2021 2:21:11 PM

Length: 00:19:17

2:02:56 PM Sen. Albritton (Chair)
2:03:36 PM S 390
2:03:51 PM Sen. Wright
2:05:18 PM Am. 279254
2:05:25 PM Sen. Thurston
2:06:18 PM Sen. Brodeur
2:06:42 PM Sen. Thurston
2:07:35 PM Sen. Brodeur
2:08:00 PM Sen. Thurston
2:08:16 PM Sen. Boyd
2:08:27 PM Sen. Wright
2:08:29 PM Sen. Boyd
2:08:42 PM Sen. Wright
2:08:55 PM Claudia Davant, Lobbyist, Florida Pharmacy Association (waives in support)
2:09:07 PM Jeff Kotcamp, Lobbyist, Small Business Pharmacies Aligned for Reform
2:12:26 PM Michael Cantens, Lobbyist, Pharmaceutical Care Management Association
2:13:35 PM Michael Jackson, Executive Vice President and CEO, Florida Pharmacy Association (waives in support)
2:14:03 PM Barney Bishop III, Lobbyist, Small Business Pharmacies Aligned for Reform
2:16:53 PM Sen. Wright
2:17:12 PM Sen. Thurston
2:17:51 PM S 390 (cont.)
2:18:05 PM Chris Nuland, Lobbyist, Florida Chapter, American College of Physicians (waives in support)
2:18:12 PM Claudia Davant, Lobbyist, Florida Pharmacy Association (waives in support)
2:18:20 PM Cynthia Henderson, Lobbyist, EPIC Pharmacies (waives in support)
2:18:29 PM Steve Winn, Executive Director, Florida Osteopathic Medical Association (waives in support)
2:18:38 PM Jeff Kotcamp, Lobbyist, Small Business Pharmacies Aligned for Reform (waives in support)
2:18:46 PM Michael Jackson, Executive Vice President and CEO, Florida Pharmacy Association (waives in support)
2:19:04 PM Barney Bishop III, Lobbyist, Small Business Pharmacies Aligned for Reform (waives in support)
2:19:59 PM Sen. Albritton
2:20:15 PM Sen. Thurston
2:20:51 PM Sen. Albritton