By the Committees on Banking and Insurance; and Health Policy; and Senator Garcia

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to pharmacy benefit managers; creating s. 465.1862, F.S.; defining terms; specifying contract terms that must be included in a contract between a pharmacy benefit manager and a pharmacy; providing restrictions on the inclusion of prescription drugs on a list that specifies the maximum allowable cost for such drugs; requiring the pharmacy benefit manager to disclose certain information to a plan sponsor; requiring a contract between a pharmacy benefit manager and a pharmacy to include an appeal process; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 465.1862, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

465.1862 Pharmacy benefit managers.-

- (1) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Maximum allowable cost" (MAC) means the upper limit or maximum amount that an insurance or managed care plan will pay for generic, or brand-name drugs that have generic versions available, which are included on a PBM-generated list of products.
- (b) "Plan sponsor" means an employer, insurer, managed care organization, prepaid limited health service organization, third-party administrator, or other entity contracting for pharmacy benefit manager services.
 - (c) "Pharmacy benefit manager" (PBM) means a person,

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business, or other entity that provides administrative services related to processing and paying prescription claims for pharmacy benefit and coverage programs. Such services may include contracting with a pharmacy or network of pharmacies; establishing payment levels for provider pharmacies; negotiating discounts and rebate arrangements with drug manufacturers; developing and managing prescription formularies, preferred drug lists, and prior authorization programs; assuring audit compliance; and providing management reports.

- (2) A contract between a pharmacy benefit manager and a pharmacy which includes MAC pricing must require the pharmacy benefit manager to:
- (a) Update the MAC pricing information at least every 7 calendar days and establish a reasonable process for the prompt notification of such pricing updates to network pharmacies; and
- (b) Maintain a procedure to eliminate products from the list or modify the MAC pricing in a timely fashion in order to remain consistent with pricing changes in the marketplace.
- (3) In order to place a particular prescription drug on a MAC list, the pharmacy benefit manager must, at a minimum, ensure that the drug has at least two or more nationally available, therapeutically equivalent, multiple-source generic drugs that:
 - (a) Have a significant cost difference;
- (b) Are listed as therapeutically and pharmaceutically equivalent or "A" or "B" rated in the United States Food and Drug Administration's most recent version of the Orange Book;
- (c) Are available for purchase without limitations by all pharmacies in the state from national or regional wholesalers;

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and

- (d) Are not obsolete or temporarily unavailable.
- (4) The pharmacy benefit manager must disclose the following to the plan sponsor:
- (a) The basis of the methodology and sources used to establish applicable MAC pricing in the contract between the pharmacy benefit manager and the plan sponsor. Applicable MAC lists must be updated and provided to the plan sponsor whenever there is a change.
- (b) Whether the pharmacy benefit manager uses a MAC list for drugs dispensed at retail but does not use a MAC list for drugs dispensed by mail order in the contract between the pharmacy benefit manager and the plan sponsor or within 21 business days after implementation of the practice.
- (c) Whether the pharmacy benefit manager is using the identical MAC list with respect to billing the plan sponsor as it does when reimbursing all network pharmacies. If multiple MAC lists are used, the pharmacy benefit manager must disclose any difference between the amount paid to a pharmacy and the amount charged to the plan sponsor.
- (5) All contracts between a pharmacy benefit manager and a contracted pharmacy must include:
- (a) A process for appealing, investigating, and resolving disputes regarding MAC pricing. The process must:
- 1. Limit the right to appeal to 90 calendar days following the initial claim;
 - 2. Investigate and resolve the dispute within 7 days; and
- 3. Provide the telephone number at which a network pharmacy may contact the pharmacy benefit manager and speak with an

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individual who is responsible for processing appeals.

(b) If the appeal is denied, the pharmacy benefit manager shall provide the reason for the denial and identify the national drug code of a drug product that may be purchased by a contracted pharmacy at a price at or below the MAC.

(c) If an appeal is upheld, the pharmacy benefit manager shall make an adjustment retroactive to the date the claim was adjudicated. The pharmacy benefit manager shall make the adjustment effective for all similarly situated pharmacies in this state which are within the network.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.