

January 12, 2023  
The Honorable Monty Mason



Dear Senator Mason,

The Patient Pocket Protector Coalition (PPPC), representing the interests of over 3 million Virginians living with chronic conditions, thanks you for your support of lowering prescription costs for patients by addressing Pharmacy Benefit Manger (PBM) rebate reform in SB 1425. Addressing the many barriers to care that PBMs create and how they impact our most vulnerable neighbors is a noble and necessary effort, and we commend your leadership in the Virginia legislature.

The PPPC is led by the Diabetes Patient Advocacy Coalition and works with state legislators to introduce and pass patient-first policies addressing the financial burdens of the 133 million Americans living with chronic conditions, beginning with PBM rebate reform. The purpose of the Coalition is to unify chronic illness advocates, to build legislative support to drive policy change, and to tackle financial toxicity impacting out-of-pocket patient costs. SB 1425, which requires that a majority of PBM rebates be shared with patients in Virginia is a strong step toward improving access, affordability, and health outcomes for people in your state.

Passing rebate savings to patients is desperately needed both in Virginia and at the national level, and resonates with lawmakers across the country. In 2021, rebate passthrough was added to the Council of State Governments' recommended legislation, and - following the lead of West Virginia in 2021 - we have successfully advocated for the introduction of and support for bills in several states, including Oklahoma, Alaska, Indiana, Kentucky, and Washington.

We encourage you to keep pushing forward until real and comprehensive reform is achieved. Please let us know how we may be helpful to you in the upcoming legislative session. We would be honored to testify, send letters of support to your colleagues, and mobilize our advocacy community to move SB 1425 forward.

We applaud your work and leadership on this critical issue and wish to share the gratitude of the patient community for championing PBM rebate reform. Passing SB 1425 will ensure Virginians can afford the lifesaving and life-sustaining medications they need to live happy and healthy lives.

Thank you again for sponsoring this critical legislation, and for all that you continue to do for those who need it most.

Sincerely,

