



STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA
GOVERNOR DOUG BURGUM

NORTH DAKOTA STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Bill No 1584 -Pharmacy Benefits Managers
House Industry, Business and Labor Committee- 327C
2:30 P.M. - Tuesday – February 11th, 2025

Chairman Warrey, members of the House Industry Business & Labor Committee, for the record I am Mark J. Hardy, PharmD, Executive Director of the North Dakota State Board of Pharmacy. I appreciate the opportunity to be here to speak to you today about House Bill 1584.

The Board of Pharmacy members have long been concerned on the practices of **Pharmacy Benefit Managers** [PBM] and many patient care issues created by the market powers of PBMs. We continue to hear from patients and pharmacies with concerns of PBM models impacting delivery of care. Our office has watched the growing number of states that enacted meaningful regulatory approaches on PBMs to enforce laws to address market concerns which PBMs influence.

North Dakota was an early adopter of the certification/licensure of PBMs through the Insurance Commissions Office. Laws and court rulings on PBMs have impacted the provisions listed in the original law, which we understand is leading to HB 1584. The state should strongly consider strengthening the regulatory mechanism to enforce those provisions over PBMs to protect the patients in our state.

Our office certainly will be happy to be a partner to the Insurance Commissioner's Office in any capacity if these changes are enacted. I will be happy to answer any questions you may have and do appreciate your time.