

Senate Human Services Committee
March 7th, 2023
Chairperson – Sen. Judy Lee

Dear Chairperson Lee and members of the Senate Human Services Committee,

My name is Rebecca Aubart and I am a pharmacy student from Colgate, ND. I am submitting my testimony for support of HB 1095 relating to the inclusion of comprehensive medication management services in health benefit plans.

I will be completing my nine year pharmacy education in May 2023 and will become a licensed pharmacist in North Dakota. I have been trained extensively on medication management which includes medication appropriateness, effectiveness, safety, interactions, and side effects. As medication experts, pharmacists are fully equipped and well within their scope of practice to provide these clinical services. Along with the clinical aspect, medication management includes proper patient education, training, counseling, adherence, and integration within the healthcare team as a whole. These pillars of comprehensive medication management are thoroughly trained and integrated throughout the Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum.

As I have completed clinical rotations at various sites across North Dakota, I have participated in comprehensive medication management services and have had pharmacist mentors who are experts in this area. These services have a large affect on our patients and I have seen my direct interventions impact patient health. One of my proudest moments as a student healthcare professional came while I was in an ambulatory care setting with a patient struggling with diabetes. I helped create a medication treatment plan and used collaborative practice agreements to cater a regimen that worked for the patient. We worked together weekly to reach their goals through in person visits, phone call check ins, different medication combinations, lifestyle coaching, and more. In five weeks the patient was able to reach their goals and targets because of the interventions I made. These services and interactions are why I am excited to practice pharmacy in North Dakota.

Pharmacists are fully qualified and currently completing comprehensive medication management. However, there are incentive limitations for providing these services that HB 1095 will improve upon. My future career goals include being involved in rural health and enhancing pharmacy based services in our rural communities. In many rural areas, the pharmacist may be the most accessible healthcare professional. Ensuring comprehensive medication management is available through all insurance plans and in these areas is important for improving patient and population health in North Dakota.

As a future healthcare professional in North Dakota, I support HB 1095 and I urge you to do the same. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,



Rebecca Aubart, PharmD Candidate 2023