

# Improving Patient's Access to Pharmacists and Increasing Transparency in Prescription Health Plan Costs

SB 2515 & HB5591 – Senator Antonio Munoz, D- Chicago and Representative Lou Lang, D-Skokie

**SB2515 & HB5591 will improve patient's access to pharmacist care services.** Pharmacists are the most accessible healthcare provider and in some communities the only provider. Even though, pharmacists are the medication experts; we are underutilized in the communities we serve.<sup>1</sup> **SB2515 & HB5591 would allow patients to gain access to a number of patient care services within a pharmacist's scope of practice.**

Pharmacist delivered patient-centered care services may include the following: chronic disease management, drug therapy management, preventive screenings (glucose, cholesterol, and blood pressure testing), obesity and tobacco use screening and counseling.

**The people of Illinois deserve access to pharmacist care services,** but currently most pharmacy and prescription health plans do not cover pharmacist delivered care services. SB2515 & HB5591 would allow these entities to contract with pharmacies and pharmacists to reimburse for these needed services for the patients covered under these plans.

**SB2515 & HB5591 would provide increased transparency of pricing and cost to the sponsors of pharmacy and prescription health plans.** Most pharmacy and prescription health plans conduct audits of pharmacy and prescription providers. These audits are assumed to be designed to detect fraud, waste, and abuse, but these audits are conducted in a manner that are biased against the pharmacy provider and the recouped monies are not completely refunded to the plan sponsors that provide the needed coverage for their employees.

**SB2515 & HB5591 preserves a patient's choice of pharmacist and the pharmacy of their choice;** by allowing any willing pharmacy and pharmacist to participate in a plan network and not to force patients away from their personal pharmacist provider and medication expert.

**SB2515 & HB5591 would allow pharmacists to synchronize their patient's medications to improve adherence to their treatment regimens.** Currently, most pharmacy and prescription health plans do not allow for a pro-rated co-payment for the patient to save money and properly coordinate with their pharmacist to increase adherence of their medications.

**SB2515 & HB5591 would protect the treatment of data collected in through pharmacy and prescription health plans.** Plan sponsors would also be notified for how the health plans would utilize their data. SB2515 & HB5591 would give the Department of Insurance proper authority to regulate and provider oversight over pharmacy and prescription health plans and entities.

**The members of the Illinois Pharmacists Association and the Illinois Council of Health-System Pharmacists urge you to Please VOTE YES on SB2515 & HB5591.**

Thank You!

<http://www.pharmacistsprovidecare.com/node/836419>



**VOTE YES on SB2515 and HB5591!**

