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I am writing to let it be known that I am completely against this levy/tax against pharmacist. This is going to cause great harm to family-owned pharmacies, especially in rural Maine. It could, in fact, have some of them shutting their doors and leaving the people, who depend on them, without the help we receive from them. This goes far beyond just picking up your prescriptions, this is removing a healthcare professional who actually knows each of their customers. Through the years, my local pharmacist has saved me from circumstances that could and were showing signs of turning out badly. In rural Maine, doctors are almost nonexistent and short of having to go to an emergency room, care isn't always readily available. A local pharmacist can see changes in their customers and ask the right questions and offer guidance when it appears warranted. Just try that with a big box pharmacy and see how far that gets you. They, the chains, will be able to absorb this tax, with little problems. Their job is to push the drugs out the door with little to no interactions with the customer. They are not a friendly face, who really is concerned about your wellbeing.

This is a very bad idea that will likely cause great trouble not only to the family-owned pharmacies, but to the people who depend on them daily. Putting this through is just another attack on small businesses in Maine and needs to be stopped.