



March 9th, 2021

The Honorable Senator Sanborn Senate Chair, Representative Tepler House Chair
Members, Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services
Cross Building, Room 220
Augusta, ME 04330

RE: LD 523 An Act Regarding Prior Authorizations for Prescription Drugs

Dear Chair Sanborn, Chair Tepler, Members of the Committee:

On behalf of the Pharmaceutical Care Management Association (PCMA), I am writing to you to support LD 523, An Act To Improve Prescription Information Access. PCMA is the national trade association representing pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs), which manage prescription drug benefits for large employers, health insurance carriers, labor trusts, government programs, and other payers.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide public comment on LD 523 which would require the use of electronic prescribing system otherwise known as a real time benefit check. Real-time benefit checks in the prescription space deliver patient-specific drug benefit and cost information directly from PBMs to the prescriber at the point of care, even providing therapeutic alternatives that are covered under a patient's health insurance benefit. These real time benefit checks will enable prescribers to easily obtain prior authorizations in real time at the point of care saving time and money.

We applaud the bill's sponsors to improve patient care in Maine and we urge Members of the Committee to vote in favor of this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to provide our feedback. Please contact me at shallemeier@pcmanet.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S. Hallemeier", written over a light blue horizontal line.

Sam Hallemeier
Director, State Affairs