



2026

INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY PHARMACY LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

2026 HOUSE PRIORITIES

There are several PBM reforms that continue to garner broad bipartisan and bicameral support but have not yet passed. We urge members of the House to cosponsor and swiftly pass:

- H.R. 4317, the *Patients Before Middlemen (PBM) Reform Act*:
 - Introduced by Reps. Buddy Carter (R-Ga.), Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.), Greg Murphy (R-N.C.), Deborah Ross (D-N.C.), Jodey Arrington (R-Texas), Diana Harshbarger (R-Tenn.), Vicente Gonzalez (D-Texas), Rick Allen (R-Ga.), Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-Ill.), John Rose (R-Tenn.), Derek Tran (D-Calif.), and Nicole Malliotakis (R-N.Y.). This bill includes the PBM reforms that were agreed to on a bipartisan, bicameral basis in December 2024, including **these pro-pharmacy provisions**.
 - **Medicaid managed care payment reform/spread pricing ban** – Moves to a fair and transparent pharmacy reimbursement system in Medicaid managed care programs based on average acquisition costs plus the state's Medicaid fee-for-service dispensing fee. This legislation requires all pharmacies to respond to the National Average Drug Acquisition Costs (NADAC) survey. **It also saves taxpayers nearly \$3 billion.**
 - **Reasonable and relevant contracts in Medicare Part D** – Requires the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to define and enforce “reasonable and relevant” Medicare Part D contract terms, including those related to reimbursements. It also would require CMS to create a process for pharmacies to report contract violations.
- H.R. 6609 and H.R. 6610, the *Pharmacists Fight Back Act*:
 - Introduced by Rep. Jake Auchincloss (D-Mass.), Chairman James Comer (R-Ky.), and Rep. Diana Harshbarger (R-Tenn.). It addresses PBM abuses in federally-funded health care programs including: Medicare Part D, Medicare Advantage, Medicaid managed care, and the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program. It also includes provisions on fair and transparent reimbursement, pass-through of rebates, and a ban on patient steering.

Additional NCPA policy priorities:

- H.R. 3164, the *Ensuring Community Access to Pharmacist Services Act (ECAPS)*:
 - Introduced by Reps. Adrian Smith (R-Neb.), Brad Schneider (D-Ill.), Diana Harshbarger (R-Tenn.), and Doris Matsui (D-Calif.). This bill would ensure Medicare beneficiaries can easily access health care services by authorizing pharmacists to test and treat COVID-19, flu, respiratory syncytial virus (RSV), and strep throat. These policies recognize pharmacists and the role they have in improving health care access by establishing Medicare Part B direct reimbursement for these pharmacist services. Independent pharmacies have played a large role at both the federal and state levels in testing for COVID-19 and administering COVID-19 vaccines to those in their communities and in long-term care facilities, and this legislation would ensure continued access for patients to services at their local pharmacy.
- H.R. 4409, the *Fair Pharmacies for Federal Employees Act*:
 - Introduced by Reps. Raja Krishnamoorthi (D-Ill.) and Diana Harshbarger (R-Tenn.). This bill would prohibit the Office of Personnel Management from contracting with entities in the Federal Employees Health Benefits Program — such as PBMs — that both manage prescription drug benefits and own or control a pharmacy. It applies to all types of pharmacies, including mail-order, specialty and retail, and it also reinforces federal and state oversight without limiting enforcement tools.
- H.R. 6400, the *Rx Access, Choice, Cost Equity, and Supply Stability (RX ACCESS) Act*:
 - Introduced by Reps. Jen Kiggans (R-Va.), Maggie Goodlander (D-N.H.), Morgan Luttrell (R-Texas), and Chrissy Houlahan (D-Pa.). This bill strengthens access for Tricare beneficiaries by restoring pharmacy choice, protecting independent pharmacies from unfair reimbursement practices, and increasing transparency across Tricare's pharmacy contractor system.



Founded in 1898, the National Community Pharmacists Association is the voice for the community pharmacist, representing over 18,900 pharmacies that employ more than 235,000 individuals nationwide. Community pharmacies are rooted in the communities where they are located and are among America's most accessible health care providers. [To learn more, visit www.ncpa.org.](http://www.ncpa.org)