



2026

INDEPENDENT COMMUNITY PHARMACY LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

PBM REFORMS SAVE TAXPAYERS \$5 BILLION — CONGRESS MUST FINALIZE THEM NOW!

Pharmacy benefit manager reform provisions, that were agreed to in bipartisan, bicameral negotiations but ultimately removed from the slimmed down CR passed last December, would have produced \$5 billion in taxpayer savings — see the chart below for details.

These measures that reduce patient costs and enhance access to pharmacies have been reintroduced on a broad bipartisan basis in both Houses (H.R. 4317, the PBM Reform Act in the House and S. 3345, the PBM Price Transparency and Accountability Act). Congress must finalize these provisions now!

Congress must act swiftly and pass these provisions as part of a standalone health care package or as part of any feasible legislative vehicle as soon as possible.

These measures would enhance transparency and eliminate spread pricing in Medicaid managed care programs, producing significant savings for taxpayers. It would also require the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to define and enforce *reasonable and relevant contract terms*, including those related to reimbursements, in Medicare Part D, which would improve patient access to medications.

We have lost over 4,100 retail pharmacies in the last four years, a more than 7 percent decrease of pharmacies for patients across the nation. That pattern of pharmacy closures is increasingⁱ, in part because community pharmacies are under-reimbursed on 75 percent of Part D claims when taking into consideration the cost to acquire and dispense the medicationⁱⁱ. Additionally, PBM practices cause further harm to patients by impeding access to medications through limited formularies and networks, letting insurance companies not patients and doctors decide when a drug works for a patient.

PBM reform cannot wait. These agreed-to provisions lower costs for patients, reduce taxpayer costs, and create a fairer playing field for community pharmacies. Congress must get them done NOW!

PROVISION	LATEST PUBLIC CBO SCORE
NADAC	\$2.046B in savings (CBO)
Medicaid Spread	\$306M in savings (CBO)
Commercial PBM Transparency	\$1.872B in savings (CBO)
Part D Delinking/Transparency	\$719M in savings (CBO)
TOTAL	\$4.943B in savings

ⁱ2022 NCPA Digest, 2023 NCPA Digest, 2024 NCPA Digest, 2025 NCPA Digest

ⁱⁱLocal Pharmacies on the Brink, New Survey Reveals | NCPA



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)