



The Maryland State Medical Society

1211 Cathedral Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-5516
410.539.0872
Fax: 410.547.0915

1.800.492.1056

www.medchi.org

House Economic Matters Committee

March 26, 2025

Senate Bill 306 – *Workers' Compensation – Prescription Drug and Pharmaceutical Services – Reimbursements*

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the largest physician organization in Maryland, supports Senate Bill 306. As amended by the Senate, this bill requires the Workers' Compensation Commission (WCC) to regulate all fees and other charges for the reimbursement of prescription drugs and pharmaceutical services provided by pharmacies through the workers' compensation system. The bill also requires the Prescription Drug Advisory Board to conduct a study on prescription drug affordability challenges related to workers' compensation claims that includes: (i) an overview of prescription drug prescribing and billing practices and trends that are specialized to the workers' compensation market; (ii) research into specific prescribing, billing, and dispensing practices.

MedChi appreciates the acknowledgment that physicians who dispense medications should not be treated the same as pharmacies. Physicians who dispense medications are not regulated by the Maryland Board of Pharmacy but by the Maryland Board of Physicians under distinct rules. There are only approximately 600 dispensing physicians in Maryland who work in private practices and urgent care centers, and not all treat injured workers through the workers' compensation system. Physicians who dispense medications often treat patients with acute conditions who receive them during their medical appointments. To continue to receive medications, the patient must return to the physician's office, ensuring that the patient is adhering to the medication regime, which results in better outcomes. Physicians do not have the equivalent purchasing power as pharmacies and should not be treated as such. For these reasons, we appreciate the change in Senate Bill 306 and support the study.

For more information, call:

Danna L. Kauffman
J. Steven Wise
Andrew G. Vetter
Christine K. Krone
410-244-7000