

# MedChi

*The Maryland State Medical Society*

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TO: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass, Chair  
Members, House Health and Government Operations Committee  
The Honorable Emily Shetty

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman  
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer  
J. Steven Wise  
Richard A. Tabuteau

DATE: February 12, 2019

RE: **SUPPORT** – House Bill 296 – *Health Occupations – Pharmacists – Disclosure of Price and Cost Share for Prescription Drugs*

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The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the largest physician organization in Maryland, **supports** House Bill 296, which requires a licensed pharmacist (or designee), at the point of sale, to inform a retail consumer, to the best of the pharmacist's (or designee's) knowledge, of: (1) the retail price for the prescription drug and (2) if the consumer has insurance, the cost share for which the consumer is responsible.

It is our experience that pharmacies typically provide this information on your receipt after payment has been paid (Retail price vs. "You pay" price). Given the use of high-deductible plans that require higher cost sharing and the variation that may occur between pharmacies for the same drug, patients need to be equipped with this information prior to completion of the sale to make informed choices on where to purchase their medication. In addition, too often, despite having insurance, the retail prices may be less expensive than the insured's cost sharing requirement.

For this reason, MedChi supports House Bill 296 and urges a favorable vote.

**For more information call:**

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