

Margaret Reynolds
State Government Affairs Principal

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Minnesota Senate
Health and Human Services Finance and Policy Committee
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Dear Chair Halverson and Committee Members:

Cigna is a national health insurance provider that has been on the front lines of providing patient access and coverage during the COVID-19 pandemic. Express Scripts is a pharmaceutical benefit manager (PBM) that cares for over 80 million lives in the United States.

Together, Cigna and Express Scripts have created a new health services leader. The combined companies are increasing affordability, choice and predictability for our customers while enhancing care quality and producing better health outcomes.

We appreciate Representative Morrison's commitment to working with us on HF3398 and are grateful for the hard work and diligence that went into crafting the DE4 amendment before you today.

Cigna: Prior authorizations ensure quality and safety for our members while also managing their health care costs. Thus, Cigna had significant concerns with a number of provisions in the first draft of HF3398—provisions that would have greatly impacted costs for our customers. Negotiated improvements to language of the bill include bifurcating standard and expedited reviews and appeals processes. Insurers, payers, and providers want to ensure timely and safe care for patients.

Express Scripts: Specific to Section 14, the additional language of paragraph (d) which acknowledges the work of a pharmaceutical benefit manager in making determinations is key to this health care policy and is very much appreciated by the industry. Pharmacists are experts in prescription drugs, both their on- and off-label uses. PBMs rely on pharmacists in helping to make sure that patients do not have an unintended reaction to a drug and can achieve their optimal health outcome.

Due to the amount of stakeholder engagement on HF3398 to get to this point, Cigna asks that no further amendments to the bill be made to avoid unintended consequences for healthcare consumers and to ensure those who have engaged in the process see this legislation to the finish line.

Sincerely,

Margaret Reynolds, State Government Affairs Principal

Cc: Rep. Kelly Morrison

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