



March 7, 2022

The Honorable Tina Liebling, Chair, Health Finance and Policy Committee  
Minnesota Health Finance and Policy Committee Members  
Minnesota House of Representatives  
477 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: **HF 3854 – Pharmacists authorized to prescribe, dispense, and administer drugs to prevent the acquisition of HIV**

**PCMA Testimony - Concerns with Prohibition on Use of Step Therapy and Prior Authorization for Antiretroviral Drugs**

Dear Chair Liebling and Members of the Health Finance and Policy Committee:

My name is Michelle Mack and I represent the Pharmaceutical Care Management Association, commonly referred to as PCMA. PCMA is the national trade association for pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs), which administer prescription drug plans for more than 266 million Americans with health coverage provided by large and small employers, health insurers, labor unions, and federal and state-sponsored health programs.

PBMs exist to make drug coverage more affordable by aggregating the buying power of millions of enrollees through their plan sponsor/payer clients. PBMs help consumers obtain lower prices for prescription drugs through price discounts from retail pharmacies, rebates from pharmaceutical manufacturers, and using lower-cost dispensing channels. Though employers, health plans, and public programs are not required to use PBMs, most choose to because PBMs help lower the costs of prescription drug coverage.

PCMA appreciates the opportunity to provide written testimony on HF 3854 and applaud the legislature and bill sponsor to provide coverage for an enrollee for HIV prevention drugs at the lowest cost share. However, we would request either removing or amending the language in Section 1 to allow health plans to still be able to perform step therapy and prior authorization based on clinical evidence and rationale. In the case of making available PrEP on the lowest cost sharing tier, prior authorization may be needed as an operational trigger.



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Again, I would like to thank the committee and bill sponsor's intent to improve patient care in Minnesota and we encourage the committee consider our proposed changes.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michelle Mack".

Michelle Mack  
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