

## Support HB 1133 By Sheffield / Zerwas / Price / Cook / Raymond

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**GME Affiliate** 

- Support a Win-Win to make prescriptions available for low income Texans.
- Shares Pharmacy Savings with Safety Net Pharmacies, the Medicaid Program and HMOs to keep affordable prescriptions available.

Prescription drugs can save lives; maintain and improve health and help us be more productive by managing chronic conditions. Yet they can also be very expensive.

Congress created the "340B" program to leverage pharmacy discounts for safety net providers that serve our most vulnerable patients. The 340B program's goal is "to stretch scarce federal resources as far as possible, reaching more eligible patients, and providing more comprehensive services."i

Safety net hospitals are able to make 340B drugs available to uninsured Texans and Medicaid enrollees; ensuring discounted pricing and improving access to health care.

Texas Medicaid developed a fair "shared savings" 340B Fee for Service payment to meet CMS requirements while ensuring the 340B program could continue to offer discounted drugs and provide healthcare for vulnerable Texans. Rates lower than this share savings "basement" level, put the program, its providers and the access to services it makes possible at risk.

- Supports continued shared savings from Texas' 340B pharmacy discount program.
- ✓ Ensures that program discounts support the most vulnerable Texans; and stretching scarce resources.

## HB 1133:

- Requires Medicaid HMOs and PBMs to reimburse 340B providers no less than the Fee for Service rates.
- Ensures continued access to 340B discounts and helps stretch our scarce health resources.
- Shares the benefits of 340B pricing with low-income Texans, the Medicaid program, and with HMO contractors to sustain a critical healthcare resource.

HB 1133 also includes similar protections for fair, transparent reimbursement in the broader Medicaid pharmacy program.

Saving lives today, preparing for tomorrow.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>i</sup> H.R. Rep. No. 102-384(II), at 12 (1992).