

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 73

BY REPRESENTATIVE TURNER

PHARMACIES: Memorializes the United States Congress to take action relative to the use of pharmacy benefit managers and their impact on the citizens of this state

## 1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To memorialize the United States Congress to take action to limit the harmful impacts and  
3 practices of pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) and protect the citizens of this state.

4           WHEREAS, pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) are third-party entities that manage  
5   prescription drug benefits on behalf of health insurers, employers, and government programs  
6   that have significant control over the pricing, availability, and distribution of prescription  
7   medications; and

8           WHEREAS, PBMs are responsible for negotiating drug prices and establishing  
9   formularies that influence the cost and accessibility of medications for patients in this state  
10   where many individuals rely on Medicaid and other programs that PBMs are responsible for  
11   managing; and

WHEREAS, numerous studies and reports have raised concerns about the contributing role of PBMs toward rising drug costs, lack of transparency in pricing, and the imposition of restrictive formularies that limit patient access to necessary medications; and

WHEREAS, the lack of transparency in PBM practices often leads to higher out-of-pocket costs for patients, especially those in underserved communities, and disproportionately affects residents of this state particularly seniors, low-income families, and individuals with chronic health conditions; and

19 WHEREAS, this state has long been committed to improving access to affordable  
20 healthcare for its residents, and the state has a vested interest in ensuring that any entities

1 involved in healthcare delivery, including PBMs, operate in a way that prioritizes the  
2 well-being of its citizens; and

3 WHEREAS, legislation has been proposed in congress to increase transparency,  
4 accountability, and regulation of PBMs and to ensure that PBMs are held to high standards  
5 that protect consumers from unfair practices; and

6 WHEREAS, Louisiana's leadership in healthcare reform can have a profound impact  
7 on shaping national policy, and it is essential for our congressional delegation to act in the  
8 best interest of the residents of this state to mitigate the harmful effects of PBM practices.

9 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
10 urge and request the United States Congress to take immediate action to address the harmful  
11 practices of pharmacy benefit managers by:

- 12 (1) Increasing transparency in PBM operations, including detailed reporting of  
13 pricing negotiations, rebates, and fees paid to PBMs by drug manufacturers,  
14 insurers, and other entities.
- 15 (2) Requiring PBMs to pass along the savings from rebates and discounts to  
16 consumers, ensuring that patients benefit directly from any negotiated cost  
17 reductions.
- 18 (3) Regulating PBM business practices to prevent anti-competitive behavior,  
19 such as steering patients to higher-cost drugs or limiting access to  
20 medications that are medically necessary.
- 21 (4) Implementing measures to enhance oversight of PBM practices and ensuring  
22 they align with the best interests of consumers especially those in vulnerable  
23 populations such as the elderly and individuals with chronic conditions.
- 24 (5) Supporting legislation that holds PBMs accountable for any harm caused to  
25 patients, including restrictions on the use of prior authorization processes that  
26 delay access to necessary prescriptions.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana urges all members  
28 of Louisiana's congressional delegation to advocate for reform and support legislation aimed  
29 at addressing the harmful effects of PBM practices on the citizens of this state and the nation  
30 as a whole.

1           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the  
2   presiding officers of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Congress of the  
3   United States of America and to each member of Louisiana's congressional delegation to the  
4   United States Congress.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HCR 73 Engrossed	2025 Regular Session	Turner
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Memorializes congress to take action to limit the harmful impacts and practices of pharmacy benefit managers and protect the citizens of this state.