



SR0792

LRB102 25778 MST 35108 r

1

SENATE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The Medicaid program in Illinois has an immense  
3 and growing impact, both in terms of taxpayer dollars and in  
4 the effect it has on citizens across the State; and

5           WHEREAS, State resources for healthcare services are  
6 scarce, and many healthcare providers, including pharmacists,  
7 are discontinuing services or ceasing operation, leading to a  
8 profoundly detrimental impact on our communities and the  
9 expansion of pharmacy deserts; and

10           WHEREAS, Enrollment under the Illinois Department of  
11 Healthcare and Family Services' Medical Assistance Programs  
12 (Medicaid) exceeds three million; and

13           WHEREAS, A sizable portion of the Medicaid population is  
14 currently enrolled, often mandatorily, in Managed Care  
15 Organizations (MCOs), making outlays to MCOS, measured in  
16 billions of dollars, one of the largest disbursements in the  
17 State; and

18           WHEREAS, 12,500 licensed pharmacists in Illinois provide  
19 medications and patient care services to assure the rational  
20 and safe use of all medications; and

1           WHEREAS, Pharmacists, as front-line healthcare providers,  
2 answered the call to aid during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic  
3 and have assumed additional responsibilities of care and  
4 practice in order to best serve the public health needs of the  
5 citizens of the State of Illinois; and

6           WHEREAS, A significant number of pharmacists respond to  
7 the charge of their community to establish a pharmacy to  
8 provide access to care for their patients; and

9           WHEREAS, Pharmacies generate additional taxable revenue  
10 for the State and yet are continuously reimbursed below their  
11 cost on medications dispensed to meet their patient's needs;  
12 and

13           WHEREAS, Pharmacy benefit managers are companies that  
14 manage prescription drug benefits on behalf of Illinois'  
15 Managed Care Programs, which includes providing claims  
16 processing services or other prescription drug services; and

17           WHEREAS, Public Act 101-452, which was signed into law  
18 August 23, 2019 and went into effect on January 1, 2020,  
19 provides oversight of pharmacy benefit managers; and

20           WHEREAS, A number of other states have performed audits  
21 evaluating the role and benefit of pharmacy benefit managers;

1 and

2 WHEREAS, It is paramount that the General Assembly stay  
3 engaged in Medicaid funding and corresponding healthcare  
4 outcome issues and be prepared to make legislative and  
5 administrative recommendations; therefore, be it

6 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL  
7 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that the Auditor General is  
8 directed to conduct a performance audit of the Department of  
9 Healthcare and Family Services' administration of pharmacy  
10 benefit managers; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the performance audit include, but not be  
12 limited to, the following determinations:

13 (1) The amount of State and federal funds used by  
14 managed care organizations to reimburse pharmacy benefit  
15 managers and, in time, the amount paid by pharmacy benefit  
16 managers to reimburse pharmacies for fiscal years 2020 and  
17 2021;

18 (2) An examination of contracts between managed care  
19 organizations and pharmacy benefit managers and between  
20 pharmacy benefit managers and pharmacies receiving  
21 reimbursement;

22 (3) The level of oversight the Department of  
23 Healthcare and Family Services provides over the contracts

1 and over the pharmacy benefit managers to ensure  
2 compliance with contract requirements;

3 (4) An overview of the distribution of and payments  
4 for pharmaceuticals in the medical assistance managed care  
5 program;

6 (5) A review of the reimbursement practices and  
7 reimbursement rates of managed care organizations to  
8 pharmacy benefit managers; and

9 (6) A review of the reimbursement practices and  
10 reimbursement rates of pharmacy benefit managers to  
11 pharmacies, including out-of-state pharmacies and  
12 pharmacies affiliated with pharmacy benefit managers; and  
13 be it further

14 RESOLVED, That the Illinois Department of Healthcare and  
15 Family Services, as well as any other entity that may have  
16 information pertaining to this audit, cooperate fully and  
17 promptly with the Auditor General's Office in the conduct of  
18 this audit; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Auditor General commence this audit as  
20 soon as possible and report his findings and recommendations  
21 upon completion in accordance with the provisions of Section  
22 3-14 of the Illinois State Auditing Act; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be delivered to

1 the Auditor General and the Illinois Department of Healthcare  
2 and Family Services.