



Pennsylvania
Pharmacists
Association

Vote Yes on House Bill 944

Provides Auditor General Authority to Audit PBMs

STATUS

House Bill 944, sponsored by Rep. Jonathan Fritz (R-111), was introduced in April, 2019 and unanimously passed the House in November, 2019. The bill is currently in the Senate Health and Human Services committee.

SUMMARY

This bill amends the Human Services Code to add a section pertaining to audits of Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs)

BACKGROUND

PBMs have absolutely no oversight or accountability for taxpayer dollars. The Department of Human Services has no way of ensuring that the taxpayer dollars provided to the MCOs for the pharmacy services for Medicaid patients are being used appropriately and being spent on the medications and the pharmacist providing those services. This bill would give the authority to the Auditor General to conduct a full-scale audit and review of PBMs that subcontract with Medical Assistance Managed Care Organizations (MA-MCOs).

SPECIFICS

- The Auditor General will have access to all prior audits completed by the department
- The Auditor General may conduct a full-scale audit of all PBMs contracting with an MCO in Medicaid
- The information obtained is not subject to the Right-to-Know law

WHY YOU SHOULD SUPPORT

- The fact that an entire industry can hide behind a loophole of a third-party contract with no oversight or accountability when dealing with millions of taxpayer dollars claiming “proprietary information” is incredulous
- The Auditor General is the chief fiscal officer and watchdog of taxpayer dollars of Pennsylvania. This office is responsible for making sure that all state money is spent legally and properly. Without proper oversight, the PBMs can spend taxpayer dollars, or in the case of spread pricing, keep millions of taxpayer dollars for their own benefit and profit