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April 10, 2025

The Honorable Susan R. Donovan, Chairwoman House Committee on Health & Human Services Room 135, State House Providence, Rhode Island 02903

RE: H 5634 - An Act Relating to Businesses and Professions - Defending Affordable Prescription Drug Costs Act

Dear Chairwoman Donovan:

The Executive Office of Health and Human Services/Medicaid would like to share our support for 2025- H 5634 - An Act Relating to Businesses and Professions – Defending Affordable Prescription Drug Costs Act.

EOHHS/Medicaid understands that the purpose of the bill is to prohibit discrimination by pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) related to reimbursement of 340B entities when they manage prescription drug benefits on behalf of Medicaid managed care organizations (MCOs).

We agree that a prohibition on PBM discrimination against 340B entities will support the long-term sustainability of the state's vital 340B entities, and thereby improve overall access to care for Rhode Islanders. The State expects to be able to amend contracts with managed care organizations in order to include this requirement.

We welcome any discussion about 2025- H 5634, and staff are available to assist with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely.

Kristin Pono Sousa

Kristin Paro Soura)

Medicaid Program Director

Executive Office of Health and Human Services

CC: Honorable Members of the House Committee Health & Human Services

Honorable Jon D. Brien

Nicole McCarty, Esq., Chief Legal Counsel

Lynne Urbani, Director of House Policy