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The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
United States House of Representatives
568 Cannon House Office Building
Washington DC 20515

Republican Members
United States Senate

Republican Members
United States House of Representatives

Dear Leader McConnell, Speaker Johnson, and Republican Members of the Senate and House of Representatives:

On behalf of tens of millions of American seniors, who for too long have been manipulated by pharmaceutical middlemen – PBMs – and deprived of drug price savings that belonged to them, it is time to deliver on PBM reform for all Americans, wherever they access their medicines. Meaningful bipartisan reform is within reach, and we respectfully urge Congress to finish the job before the end of the year.

For years, PBMs have been able to operate mostly as they wanted – as unregulated middlemen whose business model is to negotiate savings from pharmaceutical companies on one hand, then squeeze pharmacies with unreasonable contracts so PBMs can pad their pockets and not have to pass along the savings to the very seniors who need those savings the most. This business model is hurting every American, and it is particularly egregious for seniors on fixed incomes during a period of high inflation.

Drug pricing affects patients broadly, and particularly seniors who commonly rely on multiple medications. One-fifth of older Americans report not taking their medications as prescribed due to cost. Nobody should have to choose between nutrition and life-saving medicines due to cost, while PBMs pocket billions.

A study posted by the National Institutes of Health found that access to better and more affordable care leads to improved medication adherence and better outcomes, which result in better health and lower costs. Legislation must hold PBMs accountable so patients can have access to both the necessities of life and the medicines they need.

PBM special interests have worked actively to frame themselves as standing up against the big pharmaceutical companies as the champions of patients, while working simultaneously behind the scenes to shrink the pool of patients that will benefit from reform – with some advocating for the exclusion of the 57 million American seniors on Medicare.

60 Plus Association
American Association of Senior Citizens
2121 Eisenhower Avenue • Suite 229 • Alexandria, VA 22314

It is time to end PBM manipulation, and America's seniors applaud Congressional leaders for your courage in taking on powerful corporate interests on behalf of patients. Meaningful reform is within reach, and it is bipartisan and achievable in an otherwise partisan environment. It is about patients – all patients, and Congress simply cannot let this chance slip away.

Seniors are watching closely to ensure that PBM reform includes patients on Medicare and enables seniors to access their medicines where they choose. PBM reform in name only will not be true reform if it fails to benefit the very patients who need it most.

Sincerely,



James Martin
Founder & Chairman



Saul Anuzis
President