



December 21, 2020

Commissioner Michael Conway
Colorado Division of Insurance
1560 Broadway, Suite 850
Denver, CO 80202

RE: NAIC PBM Model

Dear Commissioner Conway,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the proposed Pharmacy Benefit Managers Act. The Health Benefits Institute is a group of agents, brokers, insurers, employers, benefit platforms and others seeking to protect the ability of consumers to make their own health care financing choices. We support policies that expand consumer choice and control, promote industry standards, educate consumers on their options and foster high quality health outcomes through transparency in health care prices, quality, and the financing mechanisms used to pay for care.

First, we'd like to thank the PBM workgroup, and especially the chair, TK Keen from Oregon, and Laura Arp, vice-chair from Nebraska. The issues contained in the model had the potential to be divisive and controversial. Throughout the process, TK's leadership ensured that the focus remained on the issues at hand and that the model reflects the concerns of all sides of issues.

It is also important to note that this model can not be considered in isolation. Both the Health Carrier Prescription Drug Benefit Management Model Act (Model #22) and the Health Benefit Plan Network Access and Adequacy Model Act (Model #74) also significantly regulate the coverage of pharmacy benefits. We believe the draft model, taken together with the other models, reflect considerable consumer protections.

While the model is far from perfect, the Health Benefits Institute supports this model as drafted. The model reflects significant compromise from various sides of the issue including pharmacies, pharmacy benefit managers, insurers, and consumer representatives. While the Health Benefits Institute does have concerns, we support the model in the spirit of compromise.

We urge the Regulatory Framework Task Force to adopt the model without any substantive changes.

Thank you again for providing an opportunity to comment on Pharmacy Benefit Managers Act. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions at jpwieske@thehealthbenefitsinstitute.org or (920) 784-4486.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read "JP Wieske", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

JP Wieske
Executive Director