



Re: House Bill 2176

Dear Chairman Schwab and Committee Members,

The American Lung Association is asking that you support HB 2176, a bill that would enable those suffering from lung disease easier access to medications. Patients with chronic conditions should be able to have their medications synchronized to increase medication adherence. Enabling patients with chronic lung disease to pick up all of their medication in one monthly visit will increase medication adherence, which has been shown to decrease future hospitalization and doctors' visits. It is challenging for patients with lung disease to make multiple trips the pharmacy each month. Many people with chronic lung disease and the elderly have mobility issues that limit their trips to the pharmacy, thus they do not always fill their prescriptions before running out.

Medication Synchronization can streamline prescription refills for pharmacists, providers, and patients allowing patients to fill all of their medications on the same day each month. In addition to improved patient outcomes, adherence can save the health care system money by avoiding more costly medical services such as emergency room visits and hospitalizations. This bill makes medication synchronization voluntary for any patient, practitioner and pharmacist, while also ensuring that anyone seeking to have their medication synchronized cannot be denied. The bill provides two very important protections for patients:

- First, it allows for a partial fill when there is a voluntary medication synchronization plan in place.
- Second, it requires insurers to prorate the co-pay or coinsurance to match how much medication is dispensed if it is less than the traditional 30-day supply. This helps patients when they are trying out a new medication or when they need a partial supply to get their medications synchronized for a monthly pickup of all of their medications.

On behalf of the American Lung Association, we would ask that you please support HB 2176. If you have further questions please feel free to contact me. Thank you for your time.

Respectfully,

Leah Martin
Director of Advocacy
American Lung Association
6701 W 64th Street - Suite 110 Cloverleaf Office Park Building #5
Overland Park, KS 66202
T: (913) 912-7190 | F: (913) 912-7206