



March 12, 2025

Committee on Financial Institutions and Insurance,

On behalf of Holton Community Hospital, as the CEO for the past 13 years, I have seen first hand the essential component the 340B program plays into providing patient care to our community. Access is detrimental to our community members in Kansas and the 340B program plays a vital role in ensuring access to care for the members of your Kansas delegation.

While the legislature added language in the 2024 budget bill to protect local pharmacies, hospitals, and clinics, the drug manufacturers have recklessly disregarded the legislative intent, and continued exploiting the lack of enforcement mechanisms, by relentlessly informing my hospital that we can only contract with one pharmacy.

When this happens, our organization has to choose between one of our two local pharmacies for the pharmaceutical manufacturer. These actions hurt local pharmacies, and they also hurt patients. Holton Community Hospital has seen our cash savings for our patients dwindled by having their choices limited.

At our hospital the following programs (tied directly to our Community Health Needs Assessment) are supported through 340B savings:

- **Senior Life Solutions** – which provides intensive outpatient group therapy for seniors.
- Integration of **Behavioral Health** into our primary care clinics – allows for reduction of stigma by having the services provided in the same location as our primary care services
- **Weight Loss** – also integrated into our primary care clinic, again allowing for services to be provided will reducing any stigma associated with seeking treatment for this condition

We hope that the Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee will join the dozens of other states that have already protected their programs. We know that courts across the country, including the United States Supreme Court, have agreed that contracting limitations related to this program are well within the bounds of state legislatures.

Your committee can protect our state hospitals, clinics, and local pharmacies rather than adding to the already large profit margins of large pharmaceutical companies. You can do this at no expense to the Kansas taxpayers, by holding the drug companies to the agreements that they already made at the federal level and requiring them to honor their word and the 340B savings at all contract locations and pharmacies throughout Kansas.

We hope you will support Senate Bill 284.

Sincerely,

Carrie Lutz, CEO Holton Community Hospital

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