EXPRESS SCRIPTS®

Support Senate Bill 351

House Insurance Committee

March 6, 2018

Submitted by Larrie Ann Brown, KS Legislative Counsel

Chairman Vickrey and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill 351.

Express Scripts is one of the nation's largest pharmacy benefits managers, managing the prescription drug benefit for 80 million Americans. We improve health outcomes by making the use of prescription drugs safer and more affordable. Express Scripts administers pharmacy benefits for Kansas employers, health plans, labor unions, Medicare beneficiaries, and TRICARE, the health plan for active-duty military, retired military and their dependents.

We support the patient-protection provisions of SB 351 that ensure that patients pay the lowest possible price for their medications, as well as allowing a pharmacist to communicate with patients about alternative drug options.

At Express Scripts, we believe our members absolutely must have full line of sight as to what a drug will cost them, and should know if there are opportunities to decrease that cost. We also believe patients should always pay the lowest price possible, whether that is their plan's copayment, or their pharmacy's cost for the medication, whether that is called a Usual and Customary (U&C) cost or a cash price.

Employers know lower copayments help their members stay on track with their prescription therapy, and do all they can to help keep these copays as low as possible. However, there are instances, particularly with low-cost generics, where a pharmacy's price for a medication is less than a patient's established copay.

In any instance when the price for a medication at a particular pharmacy is less than the copay associated with that formulary tier, our members pay the lower price and their drug utilization is captured in our claims system, which allows members and pharmacists to benefit from our real-time clinical safety reviews of a patient's medications.

We are pleased to support SB 351.