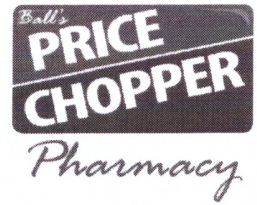


January 26, 2019  
cc: Rep. Jerry Stogsdill



Dear Chairwoman Landwehr,

As a pharmacist working at a community pharmacy in Overland Park, Kansas, I deeply enjoy daily interactions with patients and strive to provide the safest and most patient-centered service possible. However, at my Price Chopper pharmacy and in pharmacies throughout Kansas, I am limited in my ability to help patients utilize their medications most effectively by the current statutes preventing pharmacist medication administration. On behalf of Balls Food Stores – Hen House and Price Chopper Pharmacies in the Kansas City metropolitan area, I write this letter to encourage you to pass H.B. 2082. This bill would allow state-licensed pharmacists to directly administer medications to patients. As medication experts, pharmacists are well-trained in medication use and administration in dosage forms such as injections. Supporting this bill is a logical step forward for providing the best healthcare possible in our state.

I recently cared for a patient at my pharmacy who would have benefited from pharmacist medication administration. Through our interaction, I learned she had recently been prescribed rapid-acting insulin. This is a high-risk medication and can reduce blood sugar to life-threatening levels if administered incorrectly. Her doctor's office was either unable or unwilling to show this patient how to use her medication in a way that is safe and effective. The patient had not yet started her new insulin because she was unaware of how to use it. That day I verbally explained to the patient how to use her new medication, but I was prohibited from physically helping her give the first injection to ensure she understood how to inject safely.

This legislation would not only increase access to safe medication administration by a trained health care professional, but also decrease patient costs. A patient could receive medication administration from a pharmacist for free or at minimal cost compared to the financial burden of paying an office visit copay to see another health care provider for the same service. Medications such as insulin, long-acting antipsychotics, vitamin B12 injections, and more may be underused by patients unable to safely administer these medications due to barriers such as dexterity limitations, vision impairment, or apprehension of self-injection. By removing these barriers, pharmacist medication administration could improve adherence rates statewide. Pharmacist medication administration is already commonplace in 40 other states, including Missouri. At this time, I must direct patients across the state line for pharmacist assistance with medication administration. With 90% of Kansans living within two miles of a pharmacy, passing legislation allowing pharmacists to administer medications would increase critical access to a health care need and reduce burden on urgent care facilities and primary care clinics.

HB 2082 would directly improve patient outcomes by reducing harm caused by incorrect administrations, reducing healthcare costs to patients, and improving medication adherence. This bill would pave the way forward in allowing Kansans to receive the greatest benefit from their medications. I truly appreciate you doing your part to help pass this important legislation.

Sincerely,

**Katie Dollar, PharmD**

PGY-1 Community Pharmacy Resident  
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