

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

December 16, 2009

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
U.S. House of Representatives  
H-232, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

**Subject: Medicaid Pharmacy Reimbursement**

Dear Madame Speaker:

On behalf of the Congressional Community Pharmacy Coalition we are writing to voice our concerns regarding the Medicaid pharmacy reimbursement provision currently being considered for inclusion in healthcare reform legislation. Although the House and Senate provisions make improvements to the existing law, which was enacted as part of the Deficit Reduction Act (DRA) of 2005, it is likely that the reforms will not adequately reimburse pharmacies under Medicaid.

As you know, H.R. 3692, the Affordable Health Care for America Act, sets the new reimbursement limit for generic drugs at 130% of the weighted average AMP. In addition, we are pleased that the Senate would propose to set reimbursement at no less than 175% of the weighted average AMP. Although these provisions will likely reimburse pharmacists more for generic medications than would have been under current law, we are still concerned that the reimbursement levels proposed will not be sufficient to assure that Medicaid patients will be able to obtain prescription medications through their community pharmacies. This could reduce Medicaid patients' access to many pharmacies and negatively impact generic dispensing.

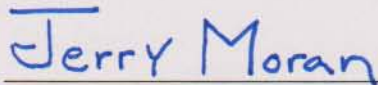
We respectfully urge you to consider a higher Federal Upper Limit (FUL) reimbursement rate for generics for pharmacies that serve our communities when Congressional Leaders reconcile differences during bicameral conference negotiations on healthcare reform legislation. In the last Congress, there was substantial bipartisan support for fixing the Medicaid pharmacy reimbursement system. The Fair Medicaid Drug Payment Act of 2007 (H.R. 3700) would have set the reimbursement rate for generics at 300% of a multiple source product's weighted average AMP.

Community pharmacies play a critical role as primary health care providers in all communities across the United States and often serve as the only resource to millions of lower income Americans for their daily health care needs. Failure to adequately fix the Medicaid pharmacy reimbursement would directly impact these patients and the pharmacies that continue to serve them.

A reasonable solution to pharmacy reimbursements is absolutely vital to our ongoing commitment and efforts on healthcare reform and will help ensure continued access to community pharmacies and affordable generic drugs. Thank you for

considering this important issue and we look forward to working with you as this legislation moves through Congress in the coming weeks ahead.

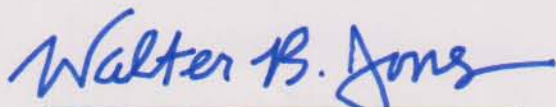
Sincerely,



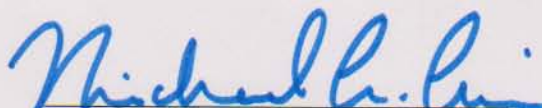
Congressman Jerry Moran



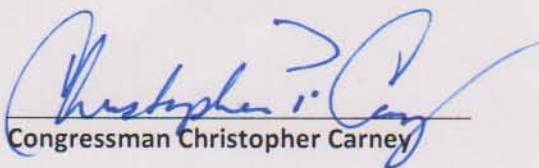
Congressman Marion Berry



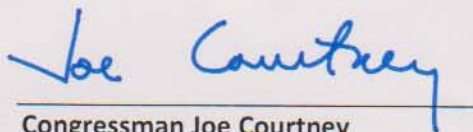
Congressman Walter B. Jones



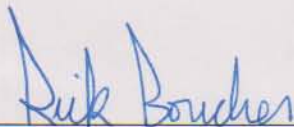
Congressman Michael A. Arcuri



Congressman Christopher Carney



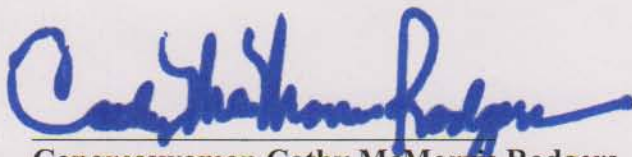
Congressman Joe Courtney



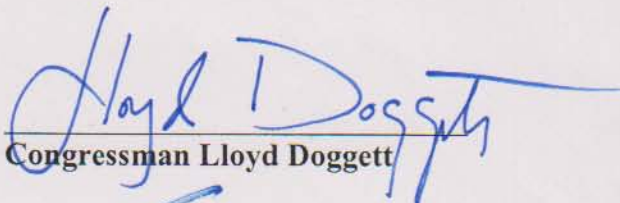
Congressman Rick Boucher



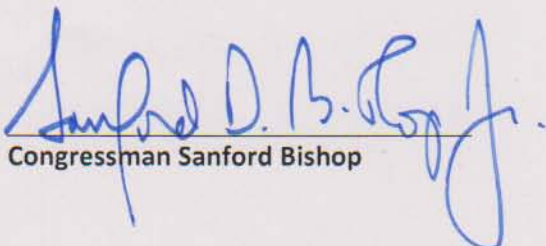
Congressman Anthony Weiner



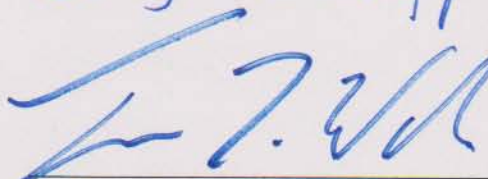
Congresswoman Cathy McMorris Rodgers



Congressman Lloyd Doggett



Congressman Sanford Bishop



Congressman Timothy Walz

*Leonard L Boswell*

Congressman Leonard Boswell

*Peter Welch*

Congressman Peter Welch

*Joe Barton*

Congressman Joe Barton

*Stephanie Hereth Sandlin*

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