



Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 8, 2011

The Honorable Jon Leibowitz
Chairman
Federal Trade Commission
600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20580

Dear Chairman Leibowitz:

We are writing today to share our concerns regarding the proposed merger of two of the nation's largest pharmacy benefit managers (PBM), Express Scripts and Medco Health Solutions. We ask that the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) closely examine this merger and ensure that it truly is in the best interest of patients, employers and local pharmacies.

While we understand that the business model of PBMs was originally designed to help patients realize cost savings, it is of great concern that a consolidated PBM of such great size will simply dominate the market and will use this tremendous market power to squeeze the health care system for greater profits at the expense of the consumer.

The independent community pharmacy is a valuable model that is incredibly popular and widely used among our constituencies across Michigan. They are easily one of the most accessible healthcare providers available to consumers today and serve as a valuable resource to patients seeking medical advice regarding prescription drugs. Any potential for diminished choice and access to local pharmacies as a result of this merger is quite alarming.

Again, we respectfully request that the FTC carefully review Express Scripts' proposed acquisition of Medco. Please address any anti-trust concerns that may arise as well as make recommendations to avoid the potential for diluted patient care, higher costs and restricted access to critical pharmacy care.

Sincerely,


Bill Huizenga
Member of Congress


Candice Miller
Member of Congress