

Letter of Support for HB19-1131 Colorado Dental Association

The Colorado Dental Association enthusiastically endorses HB19-1131, the Prescription Drug Cost Education bill, sponsored by Representative Jaquez Lewis and Senator Winter.

HB 1131 is a simple bill with a powerful educational purpose.

As Dentists, quality patient care is our top priority. Having up to date information about prescription drugs will help to ensure that we are providing our patients with all the best available therapeutic options.

When a new drug comes to market and the Pharma Rep comes in to discuss the efficacy and safety of the drug, most Dentists would also like to know the cost of the drug. If this bill becomes law, the cost of these prescription drugs will be more available to Colorado prescribers.

There will be more education about other drugs in the same Therapeutic class as the Drug rep will also share the cost of up to 3 medications in the same class.

Creating clarity and transparency around the pricing of prescriptions is long overdue and the burden of finding pricing information for every medication and its equivalents should not fall only to prescribers and pharmacists. The drug manufacturers are in complete control of the price of their drug which is typically referred to as the WAC price. (Wholesale Acquisition Cost). It is a publically available, industry standard price and that is the cost that will be shared with the Colorado prescribers. Who better to share the cost of the medication, than the manufacturer, themselves. The Pharma reps will also have the opportunity to educate Providers about patient assistance programs, if they so choose.

Dentists deserve to have the most up to date information possible, so we can make informed decisions about individualized patient care plans. This Prescription drug education bill, should it become law, will help do just that.

Sincerely,

Colorado Dental Association