

March 11, 2016

Dear Senator Giessel,

Thank you for your time and commitment to our great state. I was born and raised here and have been lucky enough to run two community pharmacies with my husband for over 30 years now.

With all business we have seen increased costs (in Sitka freight is a challenge) and in the case of pharmacy we have seen the Pharmacy Benefit Managers muscle in to every aspect of pharmacy from decreased reimbursements to forcing folks to use their mail order plan to dis-enrolling independent pharmacies for some nebulous reasons to not allowing us to participate if they don't feel the need for coverage in that location--well on and on.

Now, with the power they wield with audits we are at their mercy -- in the cases of audits we have experienced it has taken significant time and energy to pull up the history and information that satisfies their need to make sure they didn't overpay the claim. We have been lucky-I believe solely due to our geographic location, we seem to be just getting desk audits however these audits are coming more often. I just sent off 4 MAC appeals to 3 different PBM's--CVS Caremark, ALASKA Medicaid and Med Impact --out of the 39 MAC appeals we have sent off in the last 6 months--with proof showing our invoices and costs we have received only 2 positive rulings. We just lost over 50\$ on a prescription that we were told is available less expensively--maybe but not thru our wholesaler and not available to us in Sitka...we have a lot of examples of this sort of thing. THANK YOU AGAIN!

Trish White RPh

White's and Harry Race Pharmacies

117 Granite Creek Road

Sitka, Alaska 99835

907 966-2102