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Dear Senator Giessel,

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

We would like to stand in support of SB 38 the Pharmacy Audit Legislation.

Like all business we have seen increased costs (freight is a challenge in Sitka) but as a pharmacy we have seen the Pharmacy Benefit Managers (PBMs) muscle into every aspect of pharmacy. Everything from reduced reimbursements, forcing folks to use their mail order plan, dis-enrolling independent pharmacies for various nebulous reasons or not even letting us into the network for those same reasons, now charging us registration fees (\$200/yr.) just to be able to bill them, and of course their auditing our claims after the fact. We are at their mercy when it comes to an audit. When we get an audit we usually have a very short window to reply, so this then takes our time away from the primary care of our patients to gather all the required information sometimes from years ago. We were audited in one case where the prescription was totally legal by the State Board of Pharmacy yet because we had not filled in the date properly and the Doctor had not signed the correct form we lost over \$8,000.00 that was stolen back from our operating capital. The patient received the correct product which improved her quality of life just as the Doctor and Patient had wanted. Due to a "technical issue" according to the PBM they were justified in holding back this money from our next payment schedule and even on appeal we received no relief. It has been said that this is a business relationship that is "negotiated" between two willing entities. No lawyer I have shown one of our contract to has said that we should sign it without modifications. When we try to modify that contract we are told that this is not negotiable take it or leave it. We have many more examples like this if needed.

Respectfully submitted,

Trish White RPh