# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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## 132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

**Legislative Document** 

No. 180

H.P. 113

House of Representatives, January 14, 2025

An Act Regarding the Interactions of Pharmacy Benefits Managers and So-called 340B Entities and Reimbursements by Pharmacy Benefits Managers to Pharmacies

Reference to the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services suggested and ordered printed.

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative MATHIESON of Kittery. Cosponsored by Representative: CLUCHEY of Bowdoinham.

- Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
- 2 **Sec. 1. 24-A MRSA §4347, sub-§20** is enacted to read:

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- **20. 340B drug pricing.** "340B drug pricing" means the program established under Section 602 of the federal Veterans Health Care Act of 1992.
  - Sec. 2. 24-A MRSA §4347, sub-§21 is enacted to read:
  - 21. Wholesale acquisition cost. "Wholesale acquisition cost" has the same meaning as in Title 22, section 8731, subsection 6.
    - Sec. 3. 24-A MRSA §4349-A is enacted to read:

### §4349-A. Discriminatory practices prohibited

- 1. Discriminatory practices of carrier or pharmacy benefits manager regarding 340B drug pricing. A carrier, or a pharmacy benefits manager under contract with a carrier, may not discriminate against an entity authorized to participate in 340B drug pricing or a pharmacy provider under contract with an entity authorized to participate in 340B drug pricing by:
  - A. Preventing or interfering with a covered person's choice to use without penalty any pharmacy provider that the covered person chooses, whether or not the pharmacy provider participates in 340B drug pricing;
  - B. Placing additional requirements, restrictions or unnecessary burdens upon an entity authorized to participate in 340B drug pricing or a pharmacy under contract with an entity authorized to participate in 340B drug pricing that results in administrative costs or fees to the entity or pharmacy that are not placed on other entities or pharmacies that do not participate in 340B drug pricing, including pharmacies affiliated with the pharmacy benefits manager; or
  - C. Requiring a billing claim to indicate that the claim is a 340B drug pricing claim unless the claim is being billed under the Medicaid program on a fee-for-service basis.
- 2. Discriminatory practices of carrier or pharmacy benefits manager regarding reimbursement. A carrier, or a pharmacy benefits manager under contract with a carrier, may not reimburse a pharmacy provider for a prescription drug or pharmacy service in an amount that is less than the national average drug acquisition cost for the prescription drug or pharmacy service at the time the drug is administered or dispensed, plus the amount of a dispensing fee that is not less than the dispensing fee paid under the Medicaid program on a fee-for-service basis. If the national average drug acquisition cost for the prescription drug or pharmacy service is not available at the time the drug is administered or dispensed, a carrier, or a pharmacy benefits manager under contract with a carrier, may not reimburse a pharmacy provider for that prescription drug or pharmacy service in an amount that is less than the wholesale acquisition cost of the drug, plus the amount of a dispensing fee that is not less than the dispensing fee paid under the Medicaid program on a fee-for-service basis. Notwithstanding this subsection, a carrier, or a pharmacy benefits manager under contract with a carrier, may not reimburse a pharmacy provider for a prescription drug or pharmacy service in an amount that is less than the amount the pharmacy benefits manager reimburses itself or an affiliate for the same prescription drug or pharmacy service.

3. Violation. The superintendent may order a carrier, or a pharmacy benefits manager under contract with a carrier, to reimburse a covered person or pharmacy provider that has incurred a monetary loss as a result of a violation of this section.

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill prohibits a health insurance carrier, or a pharmacy benefits manager under contract with a carrier, from engaging in certain discriminatory practices against an entity authorized to participate in the federal 340B drug pricing program or a pharmacy provider under contract with an entity authorized to participate in the federal 340B drug pricing program. The federal 340B drug pricing program within the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration allows eligible entities to purchase discounted prescription drugs.

The bill also prohibits a health insurance carrier, or a pharmacy benefits manager under contract with a carrier, from reimbursing a pharmacy provider for a prescription drug or pharmacy service in an amount that is less than the national average drug acquisition cost at the time the drug is administered or dispensed. The bill also specifies that the reimbursement amount may not be less than the amount the pharmacy benefits manager reimburses itself or an affiliate for the same prescription drug or pharmacy service.