

May 6, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson

Speaker of the House
Capitol Building H-232
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries

House Minority Leader
Capitol Building H-204
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Thune

Senate Majority Leader
Capitol Building S-221
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer

Senate Minority Leader
Capitol Building S-230
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Ensure Access to Reliable Care & Services Provided By Pharmacists

Dear Majority Leader Thune, Speaker Johnson, Minority Leader Schumer, and Minority Leader Jeffries:

The undersigned organizations write to urge you to support the Ensuring Community Access to Pharmacists Services Act (ECAPS). This bipartisan legislation would enable patients to continue to receive timely and consistent care from pharmacists for essential health services and allow pharmacists to continue to provide testing, treatment, and vaccinations for common infectious diseases that harm our communities. By urgently acting to support and advance this legislation, Congress can ensure pharmacist services are covered, protecting rural and senior communities.

During the 2023-2024 respiratory season, pharmacists administered [74%](#) of vaccinations in the United States. More recently, pharmacists have thus far administered more than [64%](#) of adult doses of influenza vaccines during the 2024-2025 flu season. These services prove to save lives and reduce costs, as the flu vaccine prevented [105,000 hospitalizations](#) and 3,500 deaths in the United States in the 2023-2024 season.

In our organizations, pharmacists provide team-based clinical services in both inpatient and outpatient settings. Clinical pharmacists collaborate with our physicians, nurses, and other healthcare professionals to provide safe and effective medication use and improve patient health outcomes while [reducing workload burdens](#) on other clinical staff. They educate patients and caregivers about their medications, monitor drug therapy, and coordinate communication between patients, insurers, and interdisciplinary specialty providers. Pharmacists' management of medication therapy has been shown to improve transitions of care and [reduce hospital readmissions](#).

Congress must support ECAPS to protect our nation's rural and senior communities from the threat of infectious diseases. ECAPS would provide payment for essential pharmacist services under Medicare Part B, enabling pharmacists to continue to safeguard patients from the threat of influenza, RSV, and other common infectious diseases. Operating within state scope-of-practice laws that already allow for the delivery of select services by pharmacists, this bipartisan legislation will ensure seniors maintain access to essential testing, treatment, and vaccination services for select diseases.

We urge you to support and advance ECAPS to ensure rural and senior communities have continued access to timely and reliable health care and services provided by pharmacists.

We stand ready to engage with you on this timely and important effort.

Sincerely,

American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP)
Alabama Society of Health-system Pharmacists
Alaska Pharmacy Association
Allina Health
Arkansas Association of Health-System Pharmacists
Avera Health
Arizona Pharmacy Association
Ballad Health
Bayhealth Medical Center
California Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Cambridge Health Alliance
Cleveland Clinic
Colegio de Farmaceuticos de Puerto Rico
Colorado Pharmacists Society
Cone Health
Connecticut Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Fairview Health Services
Georgia Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Idaho Society of Health-System Pharmacy
Illinois Council of Health-System Pharmacists
Indiana Pharmacy Association
Kansas Council of Health-System Pharmacy
Kentucky Society of Health-System Pharmacy
Lee Health
Louisiana Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Massachusetts Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Michigan Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Minnesota Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Montana Pharmacy Association
Nebraska Pharmacists Association
Nevada Society of Health-System Pharmacists
New Hampshire Society of Health-System Pharmacists
New Jersey Society of Health-System Pharmacy
New York State Council of Health-System Pharmacists
North Dakota Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Ohio Society of Health-System Pharmacy

OhioHealth
Oregon Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Pennsylvania Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Pharmacy Society of Wisconsin
Rhode Island Society of Health-System Pharmacists
South Dakota Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Tennessee Pharmacists Association
Virginia Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Washington State Pharmacy Association
West Virginia Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Washington Metropolitan Society of Health-System Pharmacists
Wyoming Society of Health-System Pharmacy