



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
CHAIN DRUG STORES

May 14, 2025

The Honorable J. Kevin Stitt
Governor of Oklahoma
2300 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 212
Oklahoma City, OK 73105

Re: Pharmacy Support for SB 906 – Increasing the Pharmacy Technician to Pharmacist Ratio

Dear Governor Stitt,

The National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) is writing to urge you to sign into law SB 906 – important legislation that would enhance pharmacies' capacity to deliver essential pharmacy care services to Oklahomans. By increasing the current restrictive pharmacy technician to pharmacist ratio in retail pharmacies from 2:1 up to 4:1, this needed policy change would enable pharmacies to optimize pharmacy technicians to perform technical and administrative pharmacy tasks so that pharmacists can focus on providing pharmacy care to their patients. NACDS and our members strongly support this legislation that would enhance pharmacies' capacity to meet growing public demand for pharmacy care.

The people of Oklahoma have come to rely on neighborhood pharmacies both for prescription drug needs and for an expanded array of healthcare services such as immunizations, testing services, and other important clinical care. With many pharmacies offering various healthcare services, 58% of Americans are now more likely to first seek non-emergency healthcare at pharmacies. On top of that, the number of prescriptions that Americans filled at retail pharmacies – 6.9 billion in 2023 – is at an all-time high. Enabling pharmacies to implement pharmacy care models that leverage the full pharmacy team will help pharmacies to continue to meet the growing needs of their patients.

Pharmacies' capacity to meet patient demand for clinical care services while simultaneously meeting prescription dispensing needs is greatly enhanced when pharmacists are allowed to delegate more duties to pharmacy technicians, without antiquated ratios and undue administrative requirements. Having the flexibility to assign technical and nondiscretionary work to a supporting team of pharmacy technicians enables pharmacists to redirect their time toward the activities that require pharmacists' clinical expertise and advanced-level training. Increasing the pharmacy technician to pharmacist ratio will allow pharmacists to implement pharmacy technician staffing levels and workflow models that best meet their patients' needs given the specific volume and patient care requirements at their pharmacy.

NACDS and our pharmacy members operating in Oklahoma urge your support for this crucial policy change and ask you to sign SB 906 into law. For questions or further discussion, please contact NACDS' Mary Staples, Director of State Government Affairs, at mstaples@nacds.org.

Sincerely,

Steven C. Anderson, FASAE, CAE, IOM
President and Chief Executive Officer
National Association of Chain Drug Stores

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NACDS represents traditional drug stores, supermarkets and mass merchants with pharmacies. Chains operate over 40,000 pharmacies, and NACDS' member companies include regional chains, with a minimum of four stores, and national companies. Chains employ nearly 3 million individuals, including 155,000 pharmacists. They fill over 3 billion prescriptions yearly, and help patients use medicines correctly and safely, while offering innovative services that improve patient health and healthcare affordability. NACDS members also include more than 900 supplier partners and over 70 international members representing 21 countries. Please visit NACDS.org.