



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
CHAIN DRUG STORES

July 16, 2018

The Honorable Susan Collins
United States Senate
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Collins:

The National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) is pleased to support your legislation, the *Patient Right to Know Drug Prices Act* (S.2554), to ensure that health insurance issuers and group health plans do not prohibit pharmacy providers from providing certain information to enrollees.

NACDS believe gag clauses should not be allowed in contracts between health plans and pharmacies. Such clauses prevent pharmacists from informing patients when a medication can be purchased at a lower price without using insurance. The prohibition and/or removal of gag clauses in contracts between health plans, pharmacy benefit managers (PBM), and pharmacies will enhance patient access to medications, enable pharmacists to have improved relationships with patients, and keep healthcare costs for patients to a minimum.

Pharmacies are the face of neighborhood healthcare and are a highly trusted source of healthcare information, products, and services. Your legislation helps ensure that all Americans can continue to trust their local pharmacies for accurate and helpful information regarding their prescription drug costs.

Again, we appreciate your leadership on this critically important healthcare issue. If you have any questions, please contact Bill Tighe, Vice President, Federal Government Affairs at (703) 837-4214 or wtighe@nacds.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom O'Donnell", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Tom O'Donnell
Senior Vice President
Government Affairs and Public Policy