

Senate Finance – February 22, 2017

Rich Harvie, RPh, Montpelier Pharmacy, Vermont Pharmacists Association (VPA) – by phone, Jeff Hochberg, President, Vermont Retail Druggists (VRD) – by phone & Theo Kennedy, JD/MPH, Esq., Lobbyist, VRD & VPA

I) S. 57 An act relating to increase consumer awareness of prescription drug prices

<http://legislature.vermont.gov/assets/Documents/2018/Docs/BILLS/S-0057/S-0057%20As%20Introduced.pdf>

Q & A s

II) **Streamlining Prescription Drug Acquisition**

Statement of Purpose: The formation of a State cooperative with a single pharmaceutical wholesale distributor to serve as primary vendor for all community/outpatient pharmacies in the State of Vermont.

“In return for primary distribution rights, the wholesaler will rebate the Department of Vermont Health Access all monies in excess of its net costs plus an agreed upon administrative fee. This will achieve a significant reduction to DVHA's drug liabilities. This partnership will also open avenues to explore additional savings from 340b purchases to increased manufacturer rebates.”

III) Pharmacy Benefit Managers

<http://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/18/221/09472>

d) At least annually, a pharmacy benefit manager that provides pharmacy benefit management for a health plan shall disclose to the health insurer, the Department of Financial Regulation, and the Green Mountain Care Board the aggregate amount the pharmacy benefit manager retained on all claims charged to the health insurer for prescriptions filled during the preceding calendar year in excess of the amount the pharmacy benefit manager reimbursed pharmacies.