Senate proposal of amendment

H. 233.

An act relating to licensure and regulation of pharmacy benefit managers

The Senate proposes to the House to amend the bill as follows:

<u>First</u>: In Sec. 1, 18 V.S.A. chapter 77, in section 3613, by striking out subdivision (b)(3) in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subdivision (b)(3) to read as follows:

- (3)(A) In order to protect and promote patients' and consumers' interests in accordance with the Office's duties under chapter 229 of this title, the Office of the Health Care Advocate shall have the right to receive and review in full, including any exhibits, attachments, appendices, or other supplementary materials, all of the following:
- (i) the preliminary report of any examination conducted by or on behalf of the Commissioner under this section;
- (ii) the pharmacy benefit manager's submissions or rebuttals to the report, if any;
- (iii) the final examination report adopted by the Commissioner; and
- (iv) the Commissioner's order adopting the final examination report.
- (B) The Office of the Health Care Advocate shall not further disclose any confidential or proprietary information provided to the Office pursuant to this subdivision. Information provided to the Office pursuant to this subdivision (3) shall not be subject to subpoena and shall not be subject to discovery or admissible in evidence in any private civil action.

Second: In Sec. 1, 18 V.S.A. chapter 77, in section 3613, by striking out subsection (e) in its entirety

Third: By adding a new section to be Sec. 6a to read as follows:

Sec. 6a. DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL REGULATION; PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION; REPORT

On or before January 15, 2025, the Department of Financial Regulation shall report to the House Committees on Health Care and on Judiciary and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Judiciary whether the Department recommends enabling pharmacies, pharmacists, and other persons injured by a pharmacy benefit manager's violation of 18 V.S.A. chapter 77 to bring an action against the pharmacy benefit manager in Superior Court.