

The PUTTbulletin

50 Reasons to Give Thanks: H.R. 9096 Gets its 50th Co-sponsor!



We said we'd do it and as of yesterday - Tuesday, November 26th - we, and by "we" I mean ALL OF US TOGETHER, met Congressman Jake Auchincloss' goal of adding 50 co-sponsors to the *Pharmacists Fight Back Act* by Thanksgiving! Congratulations Team!!

Representative Juan Ciscomani (AZ-R) became the 50th delegate to sign in support of H.R. 9096, creating an evenly-balanced, bipartisan bill. Thank you Congressman Ciscomani!

This not-small and certainly not-insignificant step is our victory. **It's YOUR victory.** Please take a moment to let that sink in!

There will be time in the future to assess what we did and how we did it, but here's a quick look at what we *didn't* do:

- **We didn't delegate the task to a paid spokesperson.** We all made our own phone calls, sent our own emails, posted our own photos and created and used our homemade countertop signs and petitions.
- **We didn't stop in the face of non-answers,** evasiveness, "we'll get back to you's" and other delay tactics. We simply didn't stop.
- **We didn't shut down when others in our industry were critical,** accusatory or upset with us for prioritizing HR 9096 co-sponsors. While a little odd at times and frankly always puzzling, we incorporated the useful feedback and when appropriate included those other bills into our conversations. Remember, there's no such thing as bad PBM reform if legislation takes us even one step closer to reducing PBMs' anti-competitive actions against pharmacies and lowers drug costs for consumers.

In short, together we took matters into our own hands. We used our voices and the resources available to us (mostly email, social media, phone calls, Zoom, in-person meetings and the occasional burst of creativity) to convey the urgency of the situation to Congress. We didn't do it in a vacuum, we built atop the foundation independent pharmacies and pharmacy organizations have spent years constructing.

So to all of us - all of YOU - and you know who you are, **thank you for giving everything you had to seeing us to 50 co-sponsors for the *Pharmacists Fight Back Act*.**

We are still very much at the beginning of what will surely be a long, frequently difficult journey from bill to law ([refresh your memory of that process here](#)). Nothing is guaranteed, but when we work together, great things really are possible!

Wishing you the happiest and most satisfying of Thanksgiving holidays,

Monique Whitney | PUTT Executive Director

PUTT is the only 501c3 nonprofit 100% dedicated to fighting against PBM anticompetitive business practices on behalf of pharmacies and their patients.

Donate Today at TruthRx.org/donate

Arkansas Pharmacists Association Working to Ensure Transparency and Payment Parity are Enforced with Permanent Rule 128

PUTT is working with the Arkansas Pharmacists Association to support their push for Rule 128. AR Rule 128 fully enforces AR Act 3 that was passed in 2018, which mandated payment transparency and parity but has not been fully enforced by the Arkansas Department of Insurance.

Governor Sanders signed an emergency version of Rule 128 into effect last month. The current effort aims to pass a permanent version of the Rule. Ensuring enforcement of Arkansas' Act 3 of 2018 is an extension of *Rutledge v PCMA* that further solidified states' right to enforce their PBM laws on those doing business in their state.

We're looking for volunteers to assist our efforts to make Emergency Rule 128 permanent. To learn more and/or join our efforts, please [contact us here](#).

NCPA Foundation: Paying It Forward & Giving Back

From natural disasters to disease outbreaks, our nation's independent pharmacies dig in their heels to weather every storm on behalf of their patients. During this season of giving, let's make sure they have the resources they need. [The NCPA Foundation](#) is a standalone 501c3 nonprofit that provides financial support for independent pharmacies in the event of disaster, accidents, illness, or other adverse circumstances. You can even designate where your gift goes to help - like disaster relief & response, student programs, or scholarships. To learn more about the foundation or to make a donation visit [ncpafoundation.org](#).

Remind your communities that pharmacies are small businesses too!

As much as patients love their independent pharmacies, sometimes communities forget that small business healthcare is, well, an actual thing! This Small Business Saturday, share the love with your communities proclaiming your #SmallBiz pride! Be sure to tag us with @TruthRx in your social media posts and we'll help you share the love far and wide! ❤️

Did You Miss a PBM On The Rocks Episode?



Listen in as our podcast cocktail crew discuss how New York pharmacists paved the way for real talk about PBMs with their first FixRx campaign, staying loud about PBM reform during a lame duck session, and how independent pharmacies have more political influence than they realize.

Joined by special guests Vinny Chiffy from FixRx, and Greg Reybold, APCI VP of Healthcare Policy.

Catch all the episodes of PBM on the Rocks at [TruthRx.org/pbm-on-the-rocks](#) or wherever you listen to your favorite podcasts

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