

## Lou Mansolillo

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**From:** Ron Lanton <rlanton@lantonlaw.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 11, 2024 2:59 PM  
**To:** House Corporations Committee  
**Subject:** Fwd: This just went out to RI

Hello! This email below is from White Cross Pharmacy letter of support of H7720.

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----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Bob Iacobucci <[rji@whitecrosspharmacy.com](mailto:rji@whitecrosspharmacy.com)>  
**Date:** Thu, Apr 11, 2024 at 9:09 AM  
**Subject:** Re: This just went out to RI  
**To:** Karen Hekeler <[Karen@northeastpharmacy.com](mailto:Karen@northeastpharmacy.com)>, [rlanton@lantonlaw.com](mailto:rlanton@lantonlaw.com) <[rlanton@lantonlaw.com](mailto:rlanton@lantonlaw.com)>

Dear House Corporation members,

Please find this letter in strong support of House Bill H7720. As you may be aware Independent as well as chain pharmacies are being consistently paid below cost on numerous prescriptions. This has obviously created a hardship for a number of pharmacy owners and employees. Throughout the country numerous pharmacies have had to close their doors due to this practice and Rhode Island will not be immune.

In the current market, a pharmacy is reimbursed based on opaque pricing that the pharmacy has no control over from the insurance employed pharmacy benefit managers. To make matters worse a pharmacy, due to contractual demands from the PBM, cannot not refuse to fill the prescription and has to suffer a loss on many transactions.

This bill will streamline the reimbursement model and enable all parties to successfully operate.

Pharmacy should be like any other service related industry. A fair price is set by the payor, then the company can elect to do business or not. This bill while it will not change contractual terms between the pharmacy and the PBM regarding

the fulfillment of prescriptions it will at least allow the pharmacy to be reimbursed above cost and be able to run a functioning business.

Numerous states have passed similar legislation and I hope RI will do the same for its local business partners.

On a personal note, my pharmacy (White Cross Pharmacy) employs 50 Rhode Islanders and have serviced the RI healthcare community for over 90 years. We are currently in our 3rd generation of ownership and hope the General Assembly can do its part to enable future generations to succeed.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Regards,

Robert Iacobucci  
White Cross Pharmacy