



May 21, 2026

Senator Melissa Murray, Chair
Senate Health and Human Services Committee
Senate Lounge – State House
Rhode Island General Assembly
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Chair Murray and Members of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee,

The Rhode Island Oncology Society (RIOS) and the Association for Clinical Oncology (ASCO) are pleased to support **SB 3260**, which prohibits pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) from steering a patient to use a certain pharmacy rather than the patient's pharmacy of choice.

RIOS and ASCO support language in SB 3260 that targets anti-competitive PBM business practices. We are opposed to requirements that steer patients towards the exclusive use of PBM-owned or affiliated pharmacies, including mail-order pharmacies. PBMs are increasingly shifting drug dispensing away from physicians and toward pharmacies they own or with which they are affiliated, which can negatively impact patient care and access. For example, PBMs actively incentivize—and in some cases require—patients to use mail-order or specialty pharmacies in lieu of a dispensing physician. Some PBMs require that patients use only their proprietary specialty pharmacy for certain drugs, despite the possibility that the patient could access the drug more cheaply and quickly from a different pharmacy.

RIOS and ASCO are encouraged by the steps SB 3260 take toward protecting patients with cancer in Rhode Island and we urge the Committee to support the bill. For a more detailed understanding of our policy recommendations on this issue, we invite you to read the [ASCO Position Statement on Pharmacy Benefit Managers and Their Impact on Cancer Care](#). We welcome the opportunity to be a resource for you. Please contact Nick Telesco at ASCO at Nicholas.Telesco@asco.org if you have any questions or if we can be of assistance.

Sincerely,

Ritesh Rathore, MD
President
Rhode Island Oncology Society

Lynn Schuchter, MD, FASCO
Chair of the Board
Association for Clinical Oncology

The Rhode Island Oncology Society (RIOS) is a statewide professional organization dedicated to advancing cancer care by championing excellence in patient treatment, strengthening collaboration among oncology professionals, and supporting education and advocacy initiatives that enhance the quality of cancer care across Rhode Island. ASCO is an organization representing physicians who care for people with cancer. With over 50,000 members, our core mission is to ensure that cancer patients have meaningful access to high-quality cancer care.