

Kansas Legislature Senate Committee on Financial Institutions & Insurance 300 SW 10th St. Topeka, KS 66612

March 17, 2025

Re: Opposition to SB 284

Dear Committee Members,

On behalf of the Infusion Access Foundation, I am writing to express our concerns regarding SB 284 and its potential impact on patient access to critical infusion therapies in Kansas. While we appreciate the legislature's commitment to addressing healthcare access and affordability, we urge careful consideration of expanding the 340B Drug Pricing Program.

The 340B Drug Pricing Program was originally created to improve medication affordability for underserved patients by allowing eligible healthcare entities to purchase drugs at a discount. However, the program has deviated significantly from its intended purpose. Instead of ensuring that savings benefit patients, large tax-exempt hospitals, private equity-backed organizations, and contract pharmacies have exploited regulatory loopholes to generate substantial profits, often at the expense of the very patients the program was designed to help.

Studies show that only 35% of 340B hospitals and 23% of 340B contract pharmacies are actually located in medically underserved areas. Meanwhile, profit margins for 340B contract pharmacies are 3.3 times higher than independent pharmacies, and drug price markups at 340B hospitals are 6.6 times higher than at independent clinics. These discrepancies indicate a failure to reinvest savings into patient care, leaving many vulnerable populations struggling with high out-of-pocket costs and limited access to affordable treatment.<sup>1</sup>

To ensure that the 340B program serves its original mission, reforms must prioritize transparency, accountability, and equity, including requiring 340B entities to demonstrate how program savings directly benefit underserved patients. Expanding or modifying the 340B program without addressing these fundamental issues risks exacerbating inefficiencies and worsening healthcare disparities.

We strongly encourage Kansas lawmakers to take a balanced approach to SB 284, one

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> AIR340B, Overview: <a href="https://340breform.org/overview/">https://340breform.org/overview/</a>



that avoids expanding the 340B program in its current state and ensures that any cost-containment measures do not inadvertently reduce access to essential infusion therapies. The Infusion Access Foundation stands ready to collaborate with policymakers to develop solutions that improve affordability without sacrificing patient access.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions or would like to discuss these concerns further, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Sincerely,

Alicia Barron, LGSW Executive Director

Infusion Access Foundation