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March 17th, 2025

Senate Committee on Financial Institutions and Insurance State Capitol 300 SW 10th Street Topeka, KS 66612

Re: Health Forward Foundation support of Senate Bill 284 – defense of drug delivery act to prohibit manufacturer interference relating to 340B drug distribution.

Chair Dietrich and Members of the Committee:

On behalf of Health Forward Foundation (Health Forward), I submit this written-only testimony in support of Senate Bill 284. Health Forward works to support and build inclusive, powerful, and healthy communities characterized by economically just systems. We support this legislation as it would ensure the expedient delivery of drugs to covered entities under the 340B program.

SB 284 helps to support the quick delivery of drugs to qualifying covered entities to ensure that underserved and low-income communities, especially critical access and rural hospitals, receive the benefits of lower cost drugs, expanded health access, and improved health outcomes. The 340B program saves program participants anywhere between 20%-50% off drug costs, which are in turn reinvested back into expanding health access for the covered entities and the communities they serve, according to the American Association of Medical Colleges.

When prescriptions are cheaper and access to care is expanded, patients in the 340B program have better health outcomes. For example, <u>one study</u> of a pharmacist home visit program funded through 340B savings showed that hospital readmission rates were less than half of what they were for program non-participants. SB 284 provides the necessary parameters for drug manufacturers to not add barriers which prevent the delivery of these products.

Health Forward asks legislators on this committee to vote <u>yes</u> on SB 284. We need to ensure that covered entities receive the pharmaceuticals provided for under the 340B program with as much deliberate speed to help the communities they serve – this legislation helps make that happen. Please feel free to reach out to me at nmadden@healthforward.org if you have any questions or requests for additional information.

Respectfully,

Nathan J. Madden, Ph.D. Impact Strategist - Policy Health Forward Foundation

> OUR PURPOSE

Every day we work to support and build inclusive, powerful, and healthy communities characterized by racial equity and economically just systems.