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January 15, 2015

The Honorable Fred Wood  
Chair, House Health and Welfare Committee  
Honorable Members of the House Health and Welfare Committee  
Idaho State Legislature  
Boise, ID 83702

Dear Chair Wood and Honorable Members of the House Health and Welfare Committee:

CVS Health wishes to convey our support of 27-0101-1401, Rules of the Idaho Board of Pharmacy addressing biosimilars. CVS Health is a leading national healthcare provider through our retail pharmacies and retail clinics. In addition, our Pharmacy Services business unit provides a full range of Pharmacy Benefit Management (PBM) services to clients consisting primarily of employers, insurance companies, unions, government employee groups, managed care organizations, and other sponsors of health benefit plans and individuals throughout the United States. We proudly operate as a major pharmacy benefit manager in Idaho, offering our patients and clients integrated pharmacy and health operations statewide including access to our Specialty Pharmacy and Mail-Order Pharmacy. Our businesses provide unparalleled service and capabilities to our clients, customers and patients as we strive to help them on their path to better health.

CVS Health supports efforts to remove barriers and facilitate the approval of biosimilars in order to increase the accessibility to life-saving medications by making them more affordable. The Board of Pharmacy's deference to the federal law and recognition of the Food and Drug Administration's extensive and exhaustive approval pathway for determining interchangeability of biosimilar drugs is crucial for encouraging Idahoans to trust the efficacy of these medications. We appreciate that the rules do not contain unnecessary communication requirements which can result in delays to care and potentially higher healthcare costs.

We thank you for your consideration of our comments and ask you to vote in support of the rules as adopted by the Board of Pharmacy. I am available to answer any questions about our position by email ([maral.farsi@cvshealth.com](mailto:maral.farsi@cvshealth.com)) or phone (916.203.9085).

Sincerely,

Maral Farsi