

## Michelle Tierney

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**From:** Kevin Reddish <KevinReddish@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 5:38 PM  
**To:** Michelle Tierney  
**Subject:** Pharmacy Legislation

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To the Senate Health and Welfare Secretary; would you please forward my email to all those on the Senate Health and Welfare Committee.

Dear Health and Welfare Committee members;

My name is Kevin Reddish, 2<sup>nd</sup> generation owner of Reddish Pharmacy located in Nampa Idaho, and our family has been serving the needs of our patients since 1976. I wanted to send everyone on the committee a quick email and ask for your support on some important legislation regarding the pharmacy profession. Over the years, our industry has been impacted by the introduction of a "middle-man" known as the Pharmacy Benefits Manager (PBM) who's main role is to help connect the patient, the insurance company, and the pharmacy. What started out years ago as a good idea to benefit all the parties involved has since turned in to the single worst thing in the profession of pharmacy. Due to greed and the fact that the PBM's have been unregulated for far too long, the PBM's have developed many business tactics that are making it impossible for retail pharmacies to stay in business. The PBM's are the very reason that I discouraged all of my children from pursuing a career in pharmacy so they could eventually take over our family business. It breaks my heart to not have them follow in my footsteps because owning our own pharmacy has allowed us to help many families over the years and is a very gratifying and noble profession. We have many customers who have been with us long enough that we currently help the grandparents, children, and now grand children. However, because of the control of the PBM's over our profession I could not in good conscious recommend my children follow in my footsteps.

The profession has tried hard to level the playing field and H215 and H291 are two very important pieces of legislation that could do just that. H215 would give the Department of Insurance the ability to hold the PBM's accountable when they are in violation of the contract. H291 will prevent the PBM's from conducting unfair audits and recouping large amounts of money when they intentionally target and look for high dollar items, just one of the tactics they use when conducting an audit. Both of these pieces of legislation are very important to our profession and I would be happy to explain or answer any questions you may have. Getting legislation in place such as this will at least put the PBM's on alert that they are now being watched and will be held accountable for their actions. In my opinion, we need to have total transparency of the PBM's and how they conduct business. I can assure you that even the insurance companies who use the PBM's to help all their insured patients don't realize that tactics such as spread pricing are just some of the major issues affecting the cost of health care in our system today. This legislation is a step in the right direction and I hope you can see that the PBM's have gone unregulated for far too long.

Thanks in advance for your support.

**Kevin Reddish**

Pharmacist/Owner

**REDDISH PHARMACY - "PROVIDING THE SERVICE YOU EXPECT AND DESERVE SINCE 1976."**

## Michelle Tierney

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**From:** Rob Miller <pharmacyshop@msn.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 15, 2023 4:28 PM  
**To:** Michelle Tierney  
**Cc:** Pam Eaton  
**Subject:** Support H215 and H291

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Dear Secretary,

I sent this message to Senator Julie Vanorder, but if you would be so kind to forward it to the other members of the committee. Thank you in advance.

Rob Miller

Dear Senator VanOrden,

This is Robert Miller Pharmacist and owner of Pharmacy Shop and Pharmacy Shop Express in our local town of Blackfoot. I'm asking you to please support H215 and H291. Although these two bill don't fully and adequately protect local pharmacies and their patients from the abusive practices of PBM's they are a step in the right direction. I realize that some legislators are reluctant to create policies involving business to business contracts, but pharmacy has no other options at this time. Again and again I am being forced as a business owner, pharmacist, and healthcare provider to choose between providing a necessary medically prescribed medication to a patient or turning them away due to a PBM reimbursing my business far less than what I can purchase the medication for. Just last week I spent over 2 hours working with my own insurance, Blue Cross of Idaho, trying to determine who was setting the price for my own and my wifes prescription needed in an upcoming Colonoscopy screening. My pharmacy was being reimbursed over \$10.00 less than my cost to buy it for the Name Brand medication and over \$30.00 less than my cost to buy it on the generic medication. After checking multiple other pharmacies which use different medication suppliers than my pharmacies, it was determined that none of us could purchase either medication at the PBM reimbursed rate. Blue Cross of Idaho promised to call me back with an answer of how and where the price was set at such underwater rates, but nearly a week later I'm still waiting. My pharmacies don't receive charity funds to provide care. The notion that Pharmacies can just eat those costs are ludicrous. Even the individuals at Blue Cross of Idaho trying to help me agreed that filling medications for less than what the pharmacy could purchase them at is not good business and were stunned to learn of these many, many situations.

I and my patients offer our thank you for any legislation you can support to help us find equal footing with the PBM giants. Please feel free to call me if you have questions or concerns about this matter.

Sincerely,

Robert N Miller

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