



# On the Record: Stakeholders on How PBMs Deliver for Employers & Patients

## [U.S. Chamber of Commerce](#)

"Given the complexity of health care markets, any hasty or haphazard effort to regulate PBMs likely would have the unintended consequences of limiting competition, harming consumers, and raising prices..."

## [Mike Pompeo, Former Secretary of State](#)

"By negotiating with drug manufacturers, [PBMs] secure lower drug prices for insurance companies so that patients and families win. As someone who ran two small businesses in Kansas, I know the value this kind of service can provide. We should be clear about this: Without PBMs, prescription drug costs for families would skyrocket. That is why I have and will continue to oppose new and unnecessary government regulations in this space."

## [Rep. Lloyd Doggett \(D-TX\), Chair and Founder of the House Affordable Prescription Drug Task Force](#)

"After years of denying that there was a drug pricing problem, [drug companies] began almost daily pointing their finger at their favorite boogeyman: pharmacy benefit managers... PBMs are the only part of the supply chain that is pushing back on monopoly drug prices."

## [Senator Rand Paul \(R-KY\)](#)

"Why are [businesses and labor unions] choosing a PBM? Do you think they want higher prices? And if a PBM is gouging, then why don't they go to another PBM? There's like 70 some-odd PBMs. And yet we've got in our heads somehow, we're going to forbid this... instead of trying to unravel the complications we put on the market, what we're asking is to ban certain contracts."

## [Joel Zinberg, Senior Fellow, Competitive Enterprise Institute](#)

"This selective contracting allows PBMs to obtain rebates and discounts that lower drug costs. It also allows them to encourage the use of drugs that are cheaper (such as generics), more effective, or both. While plan sponsors aren't required to contract with PBMs, most do, suggesting they value PBMs' services."

## [Frederick Isasi, Executive Director, Families USA](#)

"Some drug costs are lower than they otherwise would be because of PBMs – and pharmaceutical corporations have taken particular aim at PBMs because of their role in negotiating a better price."

## [Alex Brill, Senior Fellow, American Enterprise Institute](#)

"[PBM] rebates end up having a threefold benefit to the healthcare system: they lower health insurance premiums for beneficiaries, they drive price competition among drug manufacturers, and they help facilitate PBMs' clinical tools... Claims that PBM rebates are a cause of increasing drug prices seem to be unfounded."

## [Casey Mulligan, The University of Chicago](#)

"Reducing competition among PBMs, even if unintentional, could cost up to \$48 billion per year. These are the risks of disclosure to be weighed against a potential reward of transferring one or two billion dollars annually from PBMs to other market participants."

## [Benjamin Rome, Internist and Health Policy Researcher, Harvard Medical School](#)

"PBMs are the only thing we have to lower brand-name drug prices and prevent the drug industry from charging whatever they want."

## [Former Senator Pat Toomey \(R-PA\)](#)

"I'm here to tell Republican lawmakers: expanding the government's role in our healthcare system could result in unintended consequences that are bad for patients. Before passing [legislation restricting PBMs] into law, Republicans should pause and ask: would these measures actually lower costs? Most evidence suggests they would do the opposite."

## [Robert Rizzi, Vice President, Massachusetts AFL-CIO](#)

"PBMs promote greater competition in the drug market and on the pharmacy level, helping patients save on drug costs, which is why Big Pharma and other special interests are fixated on scapegoating them: It would boost their own bottom line.."

## [Ike Brannon, Senior Fellow, Jack Kemp Foundation](#)

"PBMs are a counterweight to government-granted monopolies and are the only entities that have any leverage to help healthcare providers obtain cutting-edge drugs in an affordable manner."

## [Congressman Eric Burlison \(R-MO\)](#)

"If you eliminate the ability to group and create formularies and be able to determine what prescriptions are preferred, then you're eliminating their ability to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies altogether. And I think this will be a dangerous step to allowing pharmaceutical [costs] to skyrocket."

## [Americans for Tax Reform](#)

"...PBMs are already transparent. They provide extensive information to patients including information on premiums, out-of-pocket costs, and coverage and provide employers and other health plan sponsors detailed information about rebates, fees, and payments and provide."