

Testimony in SUPPORT of HB 340

Prescription Drug Affordability Board - Authority for Upper Payment Limits and Funding (The Lowering Prescription Drug Costs For All Marylanders Now Act)

House Health and Government Operations Committee

February 8, 2024

Dear Honorable Chair Peña-Melnyk, Vice Chair Cullison, and Members of the Committee,

My name is John Spillane and I live in Hyattsville. I am testifying in support of HB 7340.

I recently completed a series of radiation treatments for prostate cancer. Along with that treatment I need to take a drug for more than one year. The charge for the drug is around three thousand dollars a month. With the help of medical support staff, after some weeks I was able to sign up to a program that covers the cost. I'm not sure what I would have otherwise done, as I'm not able to pay that.

Maryland's Prescription Drug Affordability Board has begun to determine ways to make high-cost prescription drugs more affordable, beginning with state and local governments. While this is a great first step, we need to expand the Board's authority to make prescription drugs more affordable for all Marylanders.

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