



SOUTH CAROLINA PHARMACY ASSOCIATION

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The Honorable Craig Gagnon, Chairman
Banking & Insurance Subcommittee
403 Blatt Bldg.
Columbia SC 29201

May 5, 2025

Dear Chairman Gagnon,

I am writing to express our support for H. 3934, which will have a direct positive impact on the lives of South Carolina patients who have rare and chronic illnesses. I ask that you support H. 3934 in your subcommittee this Wednesday. As CEO of the South Carolina Pharmacy Association and a pharmacist who has been serving the community for 27 years, I have witnessed firsthand the challenges faced by patients who rely on third-party cost-sharing assistance for their medications.

H. 3934 aims to protect these patients by ensuring that all payments, made by the patient or on behalf of the patient, count towards the patient's deductible and out-of-pocket maximum. This legislation will provide much-needed relief to patients who are burdened by high out-of-pocket costs and will enable them to access the vital medications they need for their ongoing treatment.

South Carolina needs to join the other states that have already enacted legislation to address this issue and prove their commitment to the health and well-being of their citizens. The success of these states in implementing such laws demonstrates the positive impact that these measures can have on patients' lives.

Furthermore, evidence from these states shows that passing legislation similar to H. 3934 does not raise premiums. The rate of increase of premiums in states that have not passed copayment accumulator legislation is approximately the same rate of increase for states that have enacted such laws. Therefore, there is no reason to be concerned about any adverse impact on insurance premiums if H. 3934 is passed.

In South Carolina, patients who cannot access their medications through insurance are left with very few options. H. 3934 will play a critical role in ensuring that patients can afford their medications and will prevent unnecessary emergency room visits, ultimately leading to cost savings for patients, insurance providers, and our state.

By passing H. 3934, we can take a significant step forward in helping patients with chronic illnesses keep compliant with their medications, allowing them to lead healthier lives and remain productive members of society. As legislators, you have the power to make a difference in the lives of countless South Carolinians who are currently struggling to access the medications they need.

I urge you to support H. 3934. Your support will not only improve the lives of patients with rare and chronic illnesses but also contribute to a more equitable healthcare system in our state. I am confident that together, we can make a significant difference in the lives of South Carolinians.

Sincerely,

Brian Clark, RPh

Chief Executive Officer

South Carolina Pharmacy Association

cc: The Honorable William G. "Bill" Herbkersman, Chairman; The Honorable Carla Schuessler; The Honorable Jermaine Johnson, Sr.; The Honorable Thomas "Randy" Ligon; The Honorable Melissa Lackey Oremus; The Honorable Fawn M. Pedalino; The Honorable Marvin "Mark" Smith; The Honorable Robert Q. Williams; Annie Wilson, SCPhA Lobbyist; Drew Clawson

FOR ALL OF PHARMACY. FOR ALL OF SOUTH CAROLINA.