

SJR45 ENROLLED



1 SJR45
2 U99QFDG-2
3 By Senators Butler, Stutts, Sessions, Beasley, Chambliss,
4 Jones, Shelnutt, Roberts, Singleton, Bell, Melson, Livingston,
5 Allen, Elliott, Kelley, Hovey, Chesteen, Carnley, Kitchens,
6 Gudger, Waggoner, Albritton, Stewart, Figures, Barfoot
7 RFD: Rules
8 First Read: 20-Mar-25



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1 Enrolled, An Act,

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4 SJR___ DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF THE LEGISLATIVE SERVICES
5 AGENCY TO HIRE AN OUTSIDE CONSULTANT TO STUDY PHARMACY
6 BENEFITS MANAGER PRACTICES.
7

8 WHEREAS, pharmacy benefits managers are
9 intermediaries between health insurers and pharmacies which
10 manage the prescription drug benefits component of health
11 insurance plans, negotiate drug pricing, and make
12 reimbursement to dispensing pharmacies in the plan network;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, pharmacy benefits managers engage in
15 multifaceted pricing, fees, and claims adjudication
16 practices that have the effect of inadequately reimbursing
17 pharmacies for the cost of dispensing drugs; and

18 WHEREAS, the Legislature has considered numerous
19 pieces of legislation in the past few years regarding
20 pharmacy benefits manager practices; and

21 WHEREAS, concerns have been raised that inadequate
22 reimbursement practices by pharmacy benefits managers
23 significantly contribute to the alarming rate of pharmacy
24 closures in the State of Alabama; and

25 WHEREAS, the closure of local independent pharmacies
26 disproportionately impacts our rural communities in areas
27 that are already underserved by health care providers,
28 limiting access to essential medications for Alabamians; and



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29 WHEREAS, the practices of pharmacy benefits managers
30 and their interaction with the regulation of insurance is
31 complex, and the assistance of outside expertise would be of
32 value; now therefore,

33 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
34 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Director of the
35 Legislative Services Agency is directed to hire a consultant
36 with national expertise and experience from outside of the
37 state to do a comprehensive study on pharmacy benefits
38 manager practices and their relationship with other actors
39 in the drug supply chain, including drug manufacturers, drug
40 wholesalers, and pharmacy services administration
41 organizations, and the resulting effects on prescription
42 drug costs, the practice of pharmacy, and consumer access to
43 medications. Upon approval of this resolution by the
44 Governor, the Director shall request proposals from
45 consultants and choose a qualified expert, who shall
46 undertake the study and report findings and recommendations
47 to the Director, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate,
48 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by no later
49 than December 1, 2025.



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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

Speaker of the House of Representatives

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Senate 20-Mar-25

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and
passed the Senate.

Patrick Harris,
Secretary.

House of Representatives

Passed: 03-Apr-25

By: Senator Butler