

**House Business, Labor, and Commerce Committee**  
February 5th, 2025

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**Bill: 1st substitute HB 257 – Pharmacy Benefit Amendments**

Sponsor: Representative Norman K. Thurston

Floor Sponsor: Undeclared

**UASD Position: Tracking**

This Bill amends provisions related to health insurance pharmacy benefits.

Discussion: The Committee adopted the 1<sup>st</sup> substitute, which corrects a typo and removes a section of the Bill that outlined specific parameters for the Public Employee Health Benefit Plan (“PEHP”) when contracting with a pharmacy benefit manager. This legislation requires the Commissioner of the Insurance Department to assist in creating a form upon request and mandates that health benefit plans ensure pharmaceutical rebates are used for specific purposes. It directs pharmacy benefit managers to offer options to self-funded health benefit plans. The Bill addresses concerns that patients currently pay the full price for prescriptions with rebates, with the rebate savings going to the benefit manager or insurer. It requires private insurers to offer plans that pass rebates directly to patients at the time of purchase, reducing costs for patients. A companion bill addresses this same concern with PEHP. With the adoption of this Bill, every employer in the state would have the opportunity to purchase a plan with this benefit, but would not be required to do so. The National Association of Benefits and Insurance Professionals spoke in support of the Bill.

Yeas: 12

Nays: 0

N/V: 4

**Outcome: 1st substitute HB 257 passed out of the Committee with a favorable recommendation.**

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