Setting the Record *Straight*

Real Facts on Senate Bill 25-071

Big Pharma false narrative: ✗

"SB 25-071 puts hospital profits ahead of patients."

Setting the record straight: ✓

- Since the COVID pandemic, the financial condition of ALL Colorado hospitals has worsened. There are 68 340B participating hospitals in Colorado, 89% of which have unsustainable margins. Cuts to the 340B program will hurt hospitals, limiting patients' access to care.
- By contrast – in 2023, 16 of the largest pharmaceutical companies reported $684 billion in earnings. Nationally, 340B accounts for about 3% of Big Pharma's total revenues.

Big Pharma false narrative: ✗

"SB 25-071 increases medication costs for Coloradans."

Setting the record straight: ✓

- The cause of increasing medication costs for Coloradans is the price, which is set by pharmaceutical companies. The 340B program offers a discount to eligible entities that helps them stretch resources and provide more services to patients.

Big Pharma false narrative: ✗

"Systems are suing patients on a daily basis under false names."

Setting the record straight: ✓

- This is not based on fact. Hospitals and health systems work with patients on financial responsibility for care provided, offering financial assistance, payment plans and more. As a last resort and only in certain situations, they may work with a collection agency – under the hospital name – to try to collect medical debt.

Big Pharma false narrative: ✗

"Senate Bill 71 removes all transparency requirements for hospital systems related to 340B and makes it a punishable offense to question hospitals' use of 340B savings."

Setting the record straight: ✓

- SB 25-071 *ADDS* new transparency measures for all participating 340B entities. The bill has been amended during the legislative process to increase transparency and accountability measures for hospitals and health systems.
- SB 25-071 includes a requirement for hospitals and health systems to publish details about how 340B benefit is used. There is no "punishment" for questioning utilization.
- The in-depth federal requirements for participating 340B entities have not changed and would not be changed under SB 25-071.

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Big Pharma false narrative: X

"340B growth costs $23 million to unions, employers, and local governments."

Setting the record straight: ✔

- The growth of 340B is primarily due to two factors:
  - More people qualifying for Medicaid, which means more hospitals are caring for Medicaid patients and are therefore eligible for the 340B program.
  - Skyrocketing drug prices charged by pharmaceutical companies, which leads to deeper 340B discounts, protecting patients and hospitals from sudden price hikes.
- The cost of 340B is covered entirely by Big Pharma – not employers, providers, or patients. That is why the pharmaceutical industry is fighting it so aggressively.

Big Pharma false narrative: X

"340B costs Colorado employers $150 million a year."

Setting the record straight: ✔

- 340B is not a patient discount program – it supports the health care system that treats everyone, regardless of their ability to pay. This reduces overall costs by ensuring access to care. The cost of uncompensated care in Colorado far exceeds any 340B savings.

Vote YES on SB 25-071 and NO on SB 25-124

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
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