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H.B. No. 2536

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to transparency related to drug costs.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subtitle A, Title 6, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 441 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 441. DRUG COST TRANSPARENCY

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 441.0001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Animal health product" means a medical product approved and licensed for use in animal or veterinary medicine, including a pharmaceutical, a biologic, an insecticide, and a parasiticide.

(2) "Pharmaceutical drug manufacturer" means a person engaged in the business of producing, preparing, propagating, compounding, converting, processing, packaging, labeling, or distributing a drug. The term does not include a wholesale distributor or retailer of prescription drugs or a pharmacist licensed under Subtitle J, Title 3, Occupations Code.

(3) "Prescription drug" and "drug" have the meanings assigned by Section 551.003, Occupations Code, except that the term "prescription drug" does not include a device or an animal health product.

(4) "Wholesale acquisition cost" means, with respect to a drug, the pharmaceutical drug manufacturer's list price for

1 the drug charged to wholesalers or direct purchasers in the United  
2 States, as reported in wholesale price guides or other publications  
3 of drug pricing data. The cost does not include any rebates, prompt  
4 pay or other discounts, or other reductions in price.

5 Sec. 441.0002. DISCLOSURE OF DRUG PRICING INFORMATION. (a)  
6 Not later than the 15th day of each calendar year, a pharmaceutical  
7 drug manufacturer shall submit a report to the executive  
8 commissioner stating the current wholesale acquisition cost  
9 information for the United States Food and Drug  
10 Administration-approved drugs sold in or into this state by that  
11 manufacturer.

12 (b) The executive commissioner shall develop an Internet  
13 website to provide to the general public drug price information  
14 submitted under Subsection (a). The Internet website shall be made  
15 available on the Health and Human Services Commission's Internet  
16 website with a dedicated link that is prominently displayed on the  
17 home page or by a separate easily identifiable Internet address.

18 (c) This subsection applies only to a drug with a wholesale  
19 acquisition cost of at least \$100 for a 30-day supply before the  
20 effective date of an increase described by this subsection. Not  
21 later than the 30th day after the effective date of an increase of  
22 40 percent or more over the preceding five calendar years or 10  
23 percent or more in the preceding 12 months in the wholesale  
24 acquisition cost of a drug to which this subsection applies, a  
25 pharmaceutical drug manufacturer shall submit a report to the  
26 executive commissioner. The report must include the following  
27 information:

- 1           (1) the name of the drug;  
2           (2) whether the drug is a brand name or generic;  
3           (3) the effective date of the change in wholesale  
4 acquisition cost;  
5           (4) aggregate, company-level research and development  
6 costs for the most recent year for which final audit data is  
7 available;  
8           (5) the name of each of the manufacturer's  
9 prescription drugs approved by the United States Food and Drug  
10 Administration in the previous five calendar years;  
11           (6) the name of each of the manufacturer's  
12 prescription drugs that lost patent exclusivity in the United  
13 States in the previous five calendar years;  
14           (7) all factors that caused the increase in the  
15 wholesale acquisition cost;  
16           (8) the percentage of the total increase in the  
17 wholesale acquisition cost that is attributable to each factor  
18 listed in Subdivision (7); and  
19           (9) an explanation of the role of each factor listed in  
20 Subdivision (7) in contributing to the increase in the wholesale  
21 acquisition cost.  
22           (d) The quality and types of information and data that a  
23 pharmaceutical drug manufacturer submits to the executive  
24 commissioner under Subsection (c) must be consistent with the  
25 quality and types of information and data that the manufacturer  
26 includes in the manufacturer's annual consolidated report on  
27 Securities and Exchange Commission Form 10-K or any other public

1 disclosure.

2 (e) Not later than the 60th day after receipt of the report  
3 submitted under Subsection (c), the executive commissioner shall  
4 publish the report on the Health and Human Services Commission's  
5 Internet website described by Subsection (b).

6 (f) The executive commissioner may adopt rules to implement  
7 this section.

8 SECTION 2. Chapter 1369, Insurance Code, is amended by  
9 adding Subchapter K to read as follows:

10 SUBCHAPTER K. PRESCRIPTION DRUG COST TRANSPARENCY

11 Sec. 1369.501. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

12 (1) "Animal health product" means a medical product  
13 approved and licensed for use in animal or veterinary medicine,  
14 including a pharmaceutical, a biologic, an insecticide, and a  
15 parasiticide.

16 (2) "Health benefit plan" means an individual,  
17 blanket, or group plan, policy, or contract for health care  
18 services issued or delivered by a health benefit plan issuer in this  
19 state.

20 (3) "Health benefit plan issuer" means an insurance  
21 company, a health maintenance organization, or a hospital and  
22 medical service corporation.

23 (4) "Pharmaceutical drug manufacturer" means a person  
24 engaged in the business of producing, preparing, propagating,  
25 compounding, converting, processing, packaging, labeling, or  
26 distributing a prescription drug. The term does not include a  
27 wholesale distributor or retailer of prescription drugs or a

1 pharmacist licensed under Subtitle J, Title 3, Occupations Code.

2 (5) "Pharmacy benefit manager" has the meaning  
3 assigned by Section 4151.151.

4 (6) "Prescription drug" has the meaning assigned by  
5 Section 551.003, Occupations Code, except that the term  
6 "prescription drug" does not include a device or an animal health  
7 product.

8 (7) "Rebate" means a discount or concession that  
9 affects the price of a prescription drug to a pharmacy benefit  
10 manager or health benefit plan issuer for a prescription drug  
11 manufactured by the pharmaceutical drug manufacturer.

12 (8) "Specialty drug" means a prescription drug covered  
13 under Medicare Part D that exceeds the specialty tier cost  
14 threshold established by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid  
15 Services.

16 (9) "Utilization management" means a set of formal  
17 techniques designed to monitor the use of, or evaluate the medical  
18 necessity, appropriateness, efficacy, or efficiency of, health  
19 care services, procedures, or settings.

20 Sec. 1369.502. PHARMACY BENEFIT MANAGER INFORMATION. (a)  
21 Not later than February 1 of each year, each pharmacy benefit  
22 manager shall file a report with the commissioner. The report must  
23 state for the immediately preceding calendar year:

24 (1) the aggregated rebates, fees, price protection  
25 payments, and any other payments collected from pharmaceutical drug  
26 manufacturers; and

27 (2) the aggregated dollar amount of rebates, fees,

1 price protection payments, and any other payments collected from  
2 pharmaceutical drug manufacturers that were:

3 (A) passed to:

4 (i) health benefit plan issuers; or

5 (ii) enrollees at the point of sale of a  
6 prescription drug; or

7 (B) retained as revenue by the pharmacy benefit  
8 manager.

9 (b) A report submitted by a pharmacy benefit manager may not  
10 disclose the identity of a specific health benefit plan or  
11 enrollee, the price charged for a specific prescription drug or  
12 class of prescription drugs, or the amount of any rebate or fee  
13 provided for a specific prescription drug or class of prescription  
14 drugs.

15 (c) Not later than the 60th day after receipt, the  
16 commissioner shall publish the report in an appropriate location on  
17 the department's Internet website.

18 Sec. 1369.503. HEALTH BENEFIT PLAN ISSUER INFORMATION. (a)  
19 Not later than February 1 of each year, each health benefit plan  
20 issuer shall submit to the commissioner a report that states for the  
21 immediately preceding calendar year:

22 (1) the names of the 25 most frequently prescribed  
23 prescription drugs across all plans;

24 (2) the percent increase in annual net spending for  
25 prescription drugs across all plans;

26 (3) the percent increase in premiums that were  
27 attributable to prescription drugs across all plans;

1           (4) the percentage of specialty drugs with utilization  
2 management requirements across all plans; and

3           (5) the premium reductions that were attributable to  
4 specialty drug utilization management.

5           (b) A report submitted by a health benefit plan issuer may  
6 not disclose the identity of a specific health benefit plan or the  
7 price charged for a specific prescription drug or class of  
8 prescription drugs.

9           (c) Not later than the 60th day after receipt, the  
10 commissioner shall publish the report in an appropriate location on  
11 the department's Internet website.

12           Sec. 1369.504. RULES. The commissioner may adopt rules to  
13 implement this subchapter.

14           SECTION 3. Notwithstanding Chapter 441, Health and Safety  
15 Code, as added by this Act, and Subchapter K, Chapter 1369,  
16 Insurance Code, as added by this Act, a pharmaceutical drug  
17 manufacturer, pharmacy benefit manager, or health benefit plan  
18 issuer is not required to submit a summary report as required by  
19 Chapter 441, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act, or  
20 Subchapter K, Chapter 1369, Insurance Code, as added by this Act, as  
21 applicable, before January 1, 2020.

22           SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.