



COMMISSIONER OF SECURITIES AND INSURANCE

Troy Downing
Commissioner

Office of the
Montana State Auditor

October 12, 2022

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden, Jr.
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Re: Changes to TRICARE Drug Program

Dear President Biden:

The changes being made to the prescription drug program under TRICARE will harm our active-duty military, National Guard, and military retirees. As Montana's sole statewide elected official who is a veteran and as the Montana Commissioner of Securities and Insurance, I write today to express my grave concern that more than 400,000 U.S. servicemembers, retirees, and their families will lose reasonable access to critical medication.

As many as 15,000 community pharmacies are being removed from Express Scripts, the pharmacy benefit manager for TRICARE. This is of great concern in rural states such as Montana. Our state has one of the highest per capita veteran populations. Our veterans rely on community pharmacies for necessary care, medication, and consultation.

The recent decision by Express Scripts to lower the number of TRICARE in-network pharmacies will severely limit veterans' access to local pharmacies. In many Montana towns, small family-owned pharmacies are often the only access to medication for veterans. If Express Scripts removes these pharmacies from their network, veterans, especially in rural states, will be forced to drive dozens, or even hundreds, of miles to fill their life-saving prescriptions.

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On behalf of all veterans, I ask that you direct the Department of Defense to reverse the ability of Express Scripts to reduce in-network pharmacies. Montana veterans, who served with honor and distinction, deserve the benefits they were promised, including convenient access to their prescriptions.

Sincerely,



Troy Downing
Montana State Auditor
Commissioner of Securities and Insurance

cc: Representative Matt Rosendale
Senator Jon Tester
Senator Steve Daines
Governor Greg Gianforte