

Christine A. Capiello
Director
Government Relations

Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield
370 Bassett Road
North Haven, CT 06473
Tel 203 985-6360
Fax 203 234-5157
christine.capiello@anthem.com



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**Statement
Of
Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield
On
SB 6 An Act Concerning Prescription Drug Copayment**

Good afternoon Senator Crisco, Representative Fontana and members of the Insurance Committee, my name is Christine Capiello and I am the Director of Government Relations for Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield in Connecticut. I am here today to speak against **SB 6 An Act Concerning Prescription Drug Copayment**.

If passed, this legislation would hamstring a crucial instrument in keeping medical premiums in check. If co-pays are the same regardless of how they are obtained (i.e. mail order vs. pharmacy) a PBMs ability to drive quality and keep out-of-pocket costs low could harm members by reducing quality and increasing the cost of providing a prescription drug benefit, making coverage unaffordable for many employers and consumers. This is particularly true for people who are on maintenance drugs and take advantage of the mail order services if the co-pay is comparable or less expensive than retail pharmacies. Without PBMs, retail pharmacies would and do charge patients higher prices for prescription drugs. This would result in the loss of a health insurance—including prescription drug coverage—for thousands of Americans who currently have coverage.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak to you about this legislation and we welcome any questions you might have.