



**Testimony Before the General Law Committee  
February 25, 2021**

**In support of  
SB 895 AN ACT CONCERNING CHANGES TO  
VARIOUS PHARMACY STATUTES**

Sen. Maroney, Rep. D'Agostino, Sen. Fonfara, Rep. Gibson, Sen. Witkos and Rep. Rutigliano and members of the Committee:

Thank you the opportunity to provide testimony regarding SB 895. The Connecticut Pharmacists Association represents over 1,000 pharmacists, from all practice settings, across the state.

The past year has demonstrated the vital role pharmacists can and do play in the health of Connecticut's citizens. From the first days of the pandemic, pharmacists stepped up—pharmacies never closed, pharmacists reached out in support of other healthcare workers. And as the COVID vaccine program has rolled out, pharmacists of all types, including students and retirees, have stepped up again to lead vaccination efforts in every community.

Collaborative practice can serve to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of care delivery. When used to its full potential, it has the ability to increase access to care, expand available services to patients, increase the efficiency and coordination of care, and leverage pharmacists' medication expertise to complement the skills and knowledge of the other health care team members.

Further, the critical role that medication management plays in treating chronic diseases suggests that the integration of pharmacists into chronic-care delivery teams improves health outcomes. Studies of pharmacists providing medication therapy management (MTM) services to improve therapeutic outcomes indicate that such services can improve outcomes and reduce costs.

And this is why SB 895 is so important—it has the potential to help drive down healthcare costs because it provides clarity and definition to authority pharmacists already possess under statute. It is important to note that SB 895 does not change pharmacist scope of practice, but it does update Connecticut law to match modern technological and patient care standards and brings Connecticut in line with pharmacy practice that most other states already enjoy.

We urge you to support SB 895.

Nathan Tinker  
CEO