

February 5, 2025

Arizona Senate Regulatory Affairs and Government Efficiency Committee
Arizona State Capitol
1700 W Washington St.
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Dear Chair Bolick and Members of the Committee,

As the Arizona Legislature considers opportunities to expand healthcare access and improve patient outcomes, SB 1214 presents a strong, commonsense solution. This bill would allow pharmacists - highly trained and trusted healthcare professionals - to provide testing and treatment for common illnesses such as flu, strep throat, and other respiratory conditions. By leveraging the accessibility of pharmacies, SB 1214 would help increase care access, reduce unnecessary emergency room visits, and alleviate strain on primary care providers.

This legislation has the support of key healthcare and pharmacy stakeholders, including Walmart, Walgreens, the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS), and the American Pharmacists Association (APhA), all of whom recognize the critical role pharmacists play in expanding patient access to care.

Pharmacists are extensively trained in clinical patient assessment, pharmacology, and disease management as part of their formal education and licensure requirements. This rigorous training enables them to safely and effectively participate in Test-and-Treat programs.

With pharmacies located in communities across Arizona, many offering extended hours, pharmacists are well-positioned to fill critical gaps in the healthcare system, particularly for residents in rural and underserved areas. Expanding Test-and-Treat through SB 1214 would empower pharmacists to apply their clinical expertise, ensuring timely and effective care for Arizonans when and where they need it most.

When this bill is heard in your committee, we strongly encourage your aye vote of SB 1214. By doing so, you will help advance a proven, patient-centered solution that improves healthcare access and outcomes across the state.

We appreciate your leadership on this important issue and look forward to working with you to expand access to care for Arizona communities.

Sincerely,

