



The Mississippi Business Alliance (MSBA) and our members oppose the “Strike-All” Amendment to House Bill 1665, passed by the Senate Public Health Committee last week.

We are asking that the Senate vote against adopting the “Strike-All.”

The business community has made a good-faith effort to work with the legislature for the past three years, and we have supported meaningful legislation to support independent pharmacists. We have agreed compromises on fair and accurate reimbursement models, eliminating clawbacks, spread-pricing, steering, clean claim timelines, licensing of PBMs and PSAOs, appeals, and disclosure.

We have been clear from the very beginning that we will oppose any legislation mandating an increase in dispensing fees.

PBMs and insurance companies will not absorb these costs. Mississippi businesses and employees covered by self-insured and group health plans will bear the brunt. Some Mississippi businesses may shoulder some of these costs. However, the overwhelming number will be forced to pass the increased costs on to their employees or eliminate their employee health plans altogether.

Pharmacies play an important role in serving consumers and providing access to prescription drugs, but the free market should determine contract terms and reimbursement without government rate-setting mandates. The bottom line is that mandating high dispensing fees will contribute to already skyrocketing health care costs.

Members of the business community agree that greater transparency and accountability should be required of PBMs. House Bill 1665, as passed by the House, accomplished those goals without putting additional costs on hard-working Mississippians.

A vote for the “Strike-All” Amendment to HB 1665 is a vote to mandate increases to dispensing fees, and a vote against the number one issue of the Mississippi Business Alliance (MSBA) and many of its members.

If, however, you intend to vote in favor of the “Strike- All,” we STRONGLY encourage you to keep the “Reverse Repealer” in HB 1665 to continue further discussions and hopefully a final resolution to this issue.



**Mississippi
Business Alliance**

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leadership for regional solutions.

MS PROPANE

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Growing Mississippi's Economy Since 1937

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ASSOCIATION**

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COLLABORATIVE**

MPM CSA
Mississippi Petroleum Marketers
and Convenience Stores Association

ABC
Mississippi Chapter

**Mississippi
Hospitality
& Restaurant
Association**

**MISSISSIPPI
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**MISSISSIPPI BANKERS
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- ABC Mississippi
- Electric Cooperatives of Mississippi
- Gulf Coast Business Council
- Mississippi Association of Self-Insurers
- Mississippi Bankers Association
- Mississippi Business Alliance
- Mississippi Consumer Finance Association
- Mississippi Energy Institute
- Mississippi Healthcare Collaborative
- Mississippi Hospitality & Restaurant Association
- Mississippi Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association
- Mississippi Poultry Association
- Mississippi Propane Gas Association
- Mississippi Trucking Association
- Southeast Oil & Gas Association