



June 9, 2022

Dr. Seung Ho, President
Ms. Anne Sodergren, Executive Officer
CA Board of Pharmacy
2720 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95833

RE: SB 958 (Limón) Medication and Patient Safety Act of 2022
Position: Co- sponsor

Dear Song and Anne,

The California Society of Health-System Pharmacists (CSHP) is pleased to write in **support** of **SB 958** by Senator Limón, which would prevent the practice known as “white bagging,” by requiring insurance coverage of infusion drugs that a provider has in stock for treating a patient instead of ordering drugs from pre-approved vendors.

Health-System Pharmacists are responsible for the integrity of medication they provide ensuring proper dosage, storage, and quality. In the case of medication that has been delivered via white bagging, it cannot always be determined if medication was transported and stored in conditions that would ensure its integrity. In these events is it required of pharmacists to not dispense these dosages as the possible harm to the patients is unknown. Additionally, changes in a medication treatment plan or regimen can cause delays as new medication must be ordered for injection. In both of these cases where new drugs must be shipped, lack of timely administration of medication may further endanger a patient. Highly trained health care professionals such as pharmacists and pharmacy technicians take pride in delivering a high standard of care to patients and uncertainty around medication is a risk we would like to see eliminated.

CSHP is the largest association representing thousands of pharmacists and other pharmacy professionals. Our members practice in every sector of healthcare: hospitals, clinics, community/retail pharmacies, ambulatory medical offices, long-term care, public health, compounding pharmacies, academia, health maintenance organizations, and government. CSHP’s mission is to promote wellness, patient safety, and the optimal use of medication for all Californians.

SB 958 would protect California patients by preventing delayed or suboptimal care, patient distress, and unnecessary hospital admissions by ensuring that patients have timely access to safe medications. For these reasons, we strongly urge you to support SB 958.

Respectfully,

Loriann DeMartini PharmD, MPH, BCGP
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