1   SJR45

ACT #2025 - 130

2   U99QFDG-2

3   By Senators Butler, Stutts, Sessions, Beasley, Chambliss,

4   Jones, Shelnutt, Roberts, Singleton, Bell, Melson, Livingston,

5   Allen, Elliott, Kelley, Hovey, Chesteen, Carnley, Kitchens,

6   Gudger, Waggoner, Albritton, Stewart, Figures, Barfoot

7   RFD: Rules

8   First Read: 20-Mar-25

APR – 3 2025
RECEIVED
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

1   Enrolled, An Act,

2

3

4   SJR 45 DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF THE LEGISLATIVE SERVICES

5   AGENCY TO HIRE AN OUTSIDE CONSULTANT TO STUDY PHARMACY

6   BENEFITS MANAGER PRACTICES.

7

8   WHEREAS, pharmacy benefits managers are

9   intermediaries between health insurers and pharmacies which

10   manage the prescription drug benefits component of health

11   insurance plans, negotiate drug pricing, and make

12   reimbursement to dispensing pharmacies in the plan network;

13   and

14   WHEREAS, pharmacy benefits managers engage in

15   multifaceted pricing, fees, and claims adjudication

16   practices that have the effect of inadequately reimbursing

17   pharmacies for the cost of dispensing drugs; and

18   WHEREAS, the Legislature has considered numerous

19   pieces of legislation in the past few years regarding

20   pharmacy benefits manager practices; and

21   WHEREAS, concerns have been raised that inadequate

22   reimbursement practices by pharmacy benefits managers

23   significantly contribute to the alarming rate of pharmacy

24   closures in the State of Alabama; and

25   WHEREAS, the closure of local independent pharmacies

26   disproportionately impacts our rural communities in areas

27   that are already underserved by health care providers,

28   limiting access to essential medications for Alabamians; and

29   WHEREAS, the practices of pharmacy benefits managers

30 and their interaction with the regulation of insurance is

31 complex, and the assistance of outside expertise would be of

32 value; now therefore,

33   BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH

34 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That the Director of the

35 Legislative Services Agency is directed to hire a consultant

36 with national expertise and experience from outside of the

37 state to do a comprehensive study on pharmacy benefits

38 manager practices and their relationship with other actors

39 in the drug supply chain, including drug manufacturers, drug

40 wholesalers, and pharmacy services administration

41 organizations, and the resulting effects on prescription

42 drug costs, the practice of pharmacy, and consumer access to

43 medications. Upon approval of this resolution by the

44 Governor, the Director shall request proposals from

45 consultants and choose a qualified expert, who shall

46 undertake the study and report findings and recommendations

47 to the Director, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate,

48 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by no later

49 than December 1, 2025.

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President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

SJR45
Senate 20-Mar-25
I hereby certify that the within Act originated in and
passed the Senate.

                    Patrick Harris,
                    Secretary.

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House of Representatives
Passed: 03-Apr-25

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By: Senator Butler

APPROVED 4-10-2025
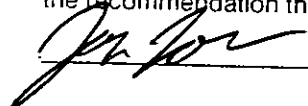
TIME 1:00 pm

GOVERNOR

Alabama Secretary of State
Act Num....: 2025-130
Bill Num...: SJR-45
Recv'd 04/10/2025 04:15PM KCW

REPORT OF RULES COMMITTEE

This resolution having been referred by
the House to its standing committee on
_____RULES_____ was acted upon
by such committee in session, and
returned therefrom to the HOUSE with
the recommendation that it be adopted.

_____Chairman