



Nevada Chronic Care Collaborative

State Advocates
Working Together
to Bridge the Gaps
in Chronic Care

02/28/2025

Nevada Legislature

Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor
Legislative Building
401 S. Carson Street
Carson City, NV 89701

[submitted electronically via: AsmCL@asm.state.nv.us]

RE: Strong Support for Assembly Bill 186 – Expanding Access of Pharmacist Clinical Services

Dear Chair Marzola, Vice Chair Jauregui, and Members of the Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor,

On behalf of the Nevada Chronic Care Coll, we express our strong support for **Assembly Bill 186 (AB 186)**, which expands pharmacists' ability to provide essential clinical services, improving access to healthcare for patients across Nevada. This bill represents a crucial step in addressing healthcare disparities and ensuring that Nevadans receive timely and effective care.

Pharmacists are among the most accessible healthcare professionals in our state, serving as a key resource for patients who need timely care. They provide essential services such as chronic disease management, medication therapy counseling, vaccinations, and preventive screenings. However, there are many other services they are trained to provide, but laws in Nevada are preventing them from doing them widely.

How AB 186 Benefits Patients in Nevada

1. Increases in Access to Essential Healthcare Services

- Many Nevadans face barriers to accessing healthcare due to provider shortages, particularly in rural areas.¹ AB 186 empowers pharmacists to provide clinical services, such as prescribing medications for minor conditions and conducting laboratory testing, filling critical gaps in the healthcare system.

2. Reduces Delays in Treatment

- In Nevada, there is a shortage of primary care providers in all seventeen counties.¹ Pharmacists are highly trained healthcare professionals.² Allowing pharmacists to

prescribe for self-limiting conditions, previously diagnosed conditions, and those requiring point-of-care testing can help alleviate this shortage.

3. Improves Management of Chronic Diseases

- Pharmacists are medication experts who can provide ongoing care for patients with chronic conditions such as diabetes, hypertension, and high cholesterol. Studies have shown that expanding their role leads to better medication adherence and improved long-term health management.³

4. Addresses Health Disparities

- Low-income, uninsured, and minority communities often struggle with limited healthcare access. Pharmacist-provided care offers a convenient and cost-effective alternative, reducing emergency room visits and hospitalizations.⁴

5. Enhances Patient Safety and Quality of Care

- Pharmacists are highly trained professionals with doctoral-level education in medication management and patient care.² AB 186 ensures that they operate within defined regulatory frameworks, maintaining patient safety while expanding care options.

Ensuring Patient-Centered Care

We recognize concerns regarding pharmacist scope of practice and patient safety, but similar policies have already been successfully implemented in other states without issue.^{5,6} Pharmacists have demonstrated their ability to provide high-quality care in collaborative healthcare models without fragmenting patient care. Additionally, built-in safeguards, including regulatory oversight by the Nevada State Board of Pharmacy, ensure that patient safety remains a top priority.

By passing AB 186, Nevada will take a significant step toward modernizing its healthcare system, reducing strain on overburdened providers, and ensuring all residents have timely access to essential healthcare services. We strongly urge the Assembly Committee on Commerce and Labor to support this vital legislation.

Thank you for your time and consideration. If you have any questions, we are happy to provide additional information.

Sincerely,

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Cc: Assemblyperson Marzola– Chair
Assemblyperson Jauregui – Vice Chair
Assemblyperson Anderson
Assemblyperson Carter
Assemblyperson Cole
Assemblyperson Hardy
Assemblyperson Kasama
Assemblyperson Miller
Assemblyperson Monroe-Moreno
Assemblyperson O’Neill
Assemblyperson Roth
Assemblyperson Forres-Fossett
Assemblyperson Yeager
Assemblyperson Yurek

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