



*Administrator*  
Washington, DC 20201

December 14, 2021

The Honorable Ron Wyden  
Chairman  
Committee on Finance  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter regarding the impact of direct and indirect remuneration (DIR) fees on both Medicare Part D beneficiaries and pharmacies. I appreciate your views on DIR as it relates to pharmacy price concessions, payments, and fees, as well as beneficiary out-of-pocket expenses.

The agency values the critical role pharmacies play in healthcare delivery and recognizes that CMS can best serve our beneficiaries by addressing the needs of pharmacies and the high cost-sharing borne by our beneficiaries.

The agency has continued to study the role that pharmacy price concession fees play in the prescription drug marketplace. CMS agrees that the significant growth in DIR amounts is troubling and is planning to use our administrative authority to issue proposed rulemaking addressing price concessions and DIR.

Thank you again for sharing your concerns. We look forward to continuing to work with you to achieve our shared goals. If you or your staff have any additional questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the CMS Office of Legislation, at (202) 690-8220. I will also provide this response to the co-signers of your letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chiquita Brooks-LaSure".

Chiquita Brooks-LaSure