



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
CHAIN DRUG STORES

February 13, 2018

The Honorable Senator Vicki Schmidt  
Honorable Members of the Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare

Topeka, KS

RE: Senate Bill 377 – Authorizing a pharmacist to administer a drug by injection

Dear Senator Schmidt and Members of the Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare:

On behalf of the members of the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) operating in Kansas, we would like to commend the committee for hearing Senate Bill 377 and its willingness to work on this issue for continued public health and safety.

Senate Bill 377 would update the pharmacy practice act to allow pharmacists to administer injectable medications to patients pursuant to a prescription order when authorized by the prescribing practitioner. Pharmacists are highly educated, trusted, and easily accessible healthcare professionals who provide patients with important patient care services. Notably, pharmacists, who are already permitted to administer vaccines to patients in the state, are well trained and experienced in drug administration techniques and practices (including for intramuscular, subcutaneous, intravenous and intradermal injections.) Providing medication administration services is consistent with pharmacists' education and training.

Modernizing the law to permit this practice will allow pharmacists, who are now authorized to provide this service in 39 states<sup>1</sup>, to better serve patients in the state of Kansas. Given the growing number of injected and infused medications on the market, this authority will allow Kansas pharmacists to offer medication administration services to patients who are currently limited in their ability to obtain these services from office-based providers, which is not always convenient for the patient (or the office-based provider) and can lead to noncompliance with prescribed therapies.

For these reasons, we strongly support Senate Bill 377 and would ask the Committee to pass the bill out without amendments at your earliest opportunity.

Thank you again for your willingness to take up this issue on behalf of the patients of the State of Kansas.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://naspa.us/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Med-Admin-Map-1.17.jpg>