

NO on Senate Bill 958

Stop the Spike in Small Business Health Insurance Premiums

- “Ridiculous, seemingly arbitrary price markups are a defining characteristic of the \$4-trillion U.S. healthcare system ... But to see **price hikes of as much as 675%** being imposed in real time, automatically, by a hospital’s computer system still takes your breath away. ... One common aspect of all U.S. hospitals is a desire to keep their pricing under wraps, **to prevent patients from knowing how badly they and their insurers are being fleeced.**” – David Lazarus, Los Angeles Times, Dec. 10, 2021
- Senate Bill 958 is about one thing: **How to “fleece” more patients and insurers out of even more money** by eliminating specialty pharmacies that provide lower-cost medications to treat complex, chronic, or rare medical conditions. Medications not always carried by chain pharmacies or stocked by hospitals or available in doctors’ offices.
- “An AHIP study found that costs per single treatment for drugs administered in hospitals were, on average, **\$7,000 more** than those purchased through pharmacies. Hospitals, on average, charged **double the prices** for the same drugs, compared to pharmacies. Physician offices charged **22% higher prices for the same drug.**” – Senate Rules Committee analysis of SB 958.
- “Because of the great cost differential between drugs provided by a specialty pharmacy and those provided by the hospital or physician’s office, opponents [of SB 958] strenuously object to this provision that allows the provider to make unilateral requests to **protect their profits.**” – Senate Rules Committee analysis.
- Health-care premiums are small businesses’ **No. 1 issue.**
- Their cost has never been knocked out of first place by any of the other 74 worries measured by NFIB’s Small Business Problems & Priorities report. Never in **more than 30 years.**
- The high cost of health insurance is driving small employers from offering this important benefit and hurting the ability of business owners to obtain coverage. Today, **only 31% can afford to have health care.**
- Medical bills were a big reason in 2/3rds of U.S. bankruptcy filings.

Stop the Spike in Small Business Health Care Costs

Stop! Senate Bill 958