

Testimony
Engrossed Senate Bill 2224 - Department of Human Services
House Human Services Committee
Representative Robin Weisz, Chairman

March 8, 2021

Chairman Weisz and members of the Human Services Committee, I am Brendan Joyce, the pharmacy administrator for the Department of Human Services (Department). I appear today to provide testimony on Engrossed Senate Bill 2224.

The Department worked with the Senate Human Services Committee, the Department of Health, and physicians to help come to the current version of this bill. The Department believes that these changes will allow for appropriate and fiscally responsible additions in products that are covered for patients in need. The existing fiscal note reflects the anticipated costs.

For clarification, the products discussed within this bill are not covered outpatient drugs so there are no drug rebates that come into play, nor are there the inherent protections in pricing and inflation of that pricing that comes with the drug rebate program. Therefore, the approach proposed in Engrossed Senate Bill 2224 is a very sound approach to the process for adding coverage of these products.

This concludes my testimony, and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.