

Chairperson:Rich PahlsCommittee:Banking, Commerce and InsuranceDate of Hearing:February 16, 2010

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

The intent of LB1088 is that insurers and pharmacy benefits managers (PBMs) send notifications of request for medication changes to patients and their physicians or other prescribing health professionals whenever the insurer or PBM recommends changing a patient's medication to a different therapeutic agent. Among other things, this notification will:

- Acknowledge that no medication change will be allowed without the authorization of the original prescribing health care professional.
- Clearly identify the originally prescribed medication and the medication to which the patient would be changed.
- Describe any financial incentives that may be provided or offered to the prescribing health care professional by the insurer or the PBM.
- Describe any financial incentives that a health insurer or PBM may receive to encourage a medicine exchange.
- Explain any cost-sharing changes for which the patient would be responsible should the medication change take place.
- State that the insured has the right to discuss the propose medication change before it occurs.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Abbie Cornett