



*508 North Third Street . Harrisburg, PA 17101-1199
phone: 717-234-6151 fax: 717-236-1618 website: www.PApharmacists.com*

For Immediate Release:
March 23, 2010

For more information, contact:
Jennifer Rogers
jrogers@papharmacists.com

Pharmacy Legislative Day to Show Pharmacists' Role in Improving Public Health Outcomes

Harrisburg, PA --- Pharmacists, pharmacy technicians, and student pharmacists from across Pennsylvania will congregate tomorrow, March 24 at 8:30 am, in the East Wing Rotunda of the Capitol to demonstrate how pharmacists can save healthcare dollars and improve public health outcomes.

Several key issues will be the focus of the day including HB 1041, which would expand collaborative practice drug therapy management to the community and allow for pharmacists to work with physicians in identifying optimum medication therapy for patient needs. Another important topic for the day is SB 616, which amends the Unfair Insurance Practice Act and prohibits insurers from imposing mandatory mail order on patients, providing patients with the choice and opportunity for convenient access to prescriptions and the opportunity to consult with their pharmacist.

HB 882 is also a focus of the day, as it provides for uniform and standard practices in the auditing of pharmacy claims. Currently, Pharmacy Benefit Managers and the audits they perform are not regulated. The fourth and final focus of the day is Representative Seth Grove's plan to introduce a bill which would expand pharmacists' ability to provide immunizations to any age, allowing pharmacists to help with the distribution of vaccines and boost Pennsylvania's immunizations rates.

These issues will be the topic of discussion as the day starts with a continental breakfast for legislators, staffers, and the community followed by screenings, displays, and information provided by Pennsylvania's 7 Schools of Pharmacy. Student pharmacists will inform attendees how to take better care of their health with information on Diabetes Management, H1N1 flu vaccine at no charge, Medication Reviews for those who bring along their medication list, blood pressure screenings, poison prevention, and smoking cessation.

###