



RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF H.R. 7213 TO ENSURE PATIENT ACCESS TO PHARMACY

WHEREAS, pharmacists are often the most easily accessible health care provider in communities across the country and are committed to improving patient outcomes.

WHEREAS, Nine in ten Americans live within five miles of a pharmacy and are trusted health professionals to millions of Americans and the majority of pharmacists (55%) work in a community-based setting.

WHEREAS, pharmacists continue to step up to combat public health threats, including COVID-19.,

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated that pharmacists are essential in providing health care for Americans, especially for underrepresented and underserved populations and rural communities.

WHEREAS, pharmacies and pharmacists have answered the call to protect communities during COVID-19, rapidly launching and expanding testing in local communities and vaccinating hundreds of millions of Americans. Pharmacies were cited by the White House as providing more than two out of every three COVID-19 vaccine doses. The strong partnerships between pharmacies and local communities across America have improved patient access to testing and vaccines.

WHEREAS, current federal barriers have the potential to undermine the ability for patients to access these vital health services in the communities they live in. Currently, pharmacists are allowed to perform COVID-19 testing, vaccination, and initiate treatment under temporary and limited emergency authorities, however, when the public health emergency ends, pharmacists will no longer have the authority to provide many of the services upon which Americans have come to rely on.

WHEREAS, the Equitable Community Access to Pharmacist Services Act (H.R. 7213) will maintain continued access for pharmacists' services for COVID-19 and other illnesses.

WHEREAS, the Equitable Community Access to Pharmacist Services Act (H.R. 7213) ensures that our communities have access to pharmacy- and pharmacist-provided services during the ongoing and future public health emergencies.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the African American Mayors Association (AAMA) affirms strong support for the Equitable Community Access to Pharmacist



Services Act (H.R. 7213), bipartisan legislation that would improve patient access to pharmacist care, empower communities to combat COVID-19 and future public health threats, and alleviate gaps in care and improve health equity in America; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the AAMA urges members of Congress to support and pass the Equitable Community Access to Pharmacist Services Act (H.R. 7213), sponsored by Representatives Ron Kind (D-WI), David B. McKinley (R-WV), Nanette Diaz Barragán (D-CA), and Buddy Carter (R-GA).