

Department of Pharmacy Practice Detroit, MI 48201

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May 9, 2017

Representative Hank Vaupel Room 519 House Office Building Lansing, MI

Dear Mr. Vaupel:

This letter references HB 4406 (Rep. Griffin) and the requirement to provide instruction to students about prescription drug abuse. I am a faculty member at Wayne State University/Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences and a licensed practicing pharmacist taking this opportunity to inform the Health Care Policy Standing Committee members of the prescription drug abuse education activities provided by student pharmacists.

Student pharmacists at Wayne State University/Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences provide education and awareness about the nonmedical use of prescription drugs to students and other members of the Detroit community.

I am faculty advisor of the student organization American Pharmacists Association- Academy of Student pharmacists (APhA-ASP) providing this community outreach: GenerationRx. The mission is education of all ages about the dangers of misusing prescription medications. We collaborate with the Love Detroit Prevention Coalition, community organizations and Detroit area schools. Generation Rx has interactive educational programs and resources for elementary students, adolescents, college students, and adults. Student pharmacists are serving on the front lines in the opioid epidemic.

Please share this information with the Health Policy Standing Committee members as you discuss HB 4406. I fully support this bill; it is necessary to educate children in schools and the community about the dangers of opioid misuse.

Sincerely,

Buttary Stewart, RD, PharmD Clinical Assistant Professor Wayne State University

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