



April 14, 2023

The Honorable Richard J. Durbin
United States Senate
711 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chuck Grassley
United States Senate
135 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Durbin and Grassley:

AARP, on behalf of our nearly 38 million members and all older Americans nationwide, is pleased to endorse the Drug-Price Transparency for Consumers (DTC) Act of 2023. We applaud your bipartisan efforts to increase price transparency for prescription drugs. Congress has taken major actions in the last year to help people in Medicare afford their life-saving medications, but more still needs to be done. This bill is another step to hold big drug companies accountable and empower patients to make informed decisions when faced with ubiquitous drug advertising.

The DTC Act would require drug manufacturers to include the monthly price of certain drugs in direct-to-consumer advertisements. We believe that providing this information will help make patients and prescribers more aware of prescription drug prices and improve the balance between education and possible overutilization by encouraging more informed conversations about treatment. For the average Medicare enrollee, who takes between four to five prescription medications regularly and has an annual income of just under \$30,000 per year, this is crucial information that impacts their health and their pocketbooks. Increased price transparency could also help foster competition that eventually leads to lower drug costs for consumers and taxpayers.

We look forward to working with you on this bill and other measures to lower drug prices for all Americans. If you have any additional questions, feel free to contact me or have your staff contact Gidget Benitez on our Government Affairs team at gbenitez@aarp.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "Bill Sweeney".

Bill Sweeney
Senior Vice President
Government Affairs