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To: MA Participating Pharmacies **From:** Ron Lanton, Director of Govt. Affairs

Date: August 10, 2026 **Pages** 1

RE: **Massachusetts Legislative Update**

July 31 Does Not End the Session

The Massachusetts Legislature concluded its regularly scheduled formal sessions on July 31, but legislative work will continue through the remainder of 2026.

New legislative rules allow the House and Senate to return to formal session to vote on agreements produced by conference committees that were established before July 31. Twelve major issues remain in conference, including the broader health care affordability legislation containing provisions addressing PBMs, prescription drug costs and pharmacy access.

The Legislature will also continue meeting in informal sessions. Bills that can advance without objection may therefore continue moving through the legislative process. In fact, some pharmacy legislation has already received additional action since July 31.

NPSC Analysis

For community pharmacies, the key takeaway is that the legislative session is **not over**.

The opportunity is narrower than it was before July 31, but pharmacy and PBM issues remain part of active negotiations on Beacon Hill. Conference negotiations over the health care affordability bill may still affect PBM oversight, pharmacy access, reimbursement practices and competition between independent pharmacies and vertically integrated entities.

NPSC will continue monitoring these negotiations and working with pharmacy stakeholders as opportunities arise. We will be in touch with next steps on how to engage your legislator to move forward with our pro-pharmacy agenda.