



Baptist Ministers' Night Conference of Baltimore & Vicinity  
5405 York Road  
Baltimore, Maryland 21212  
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May 15, 2024

Chair Mitchell, Members of the Prescription Drug Affordability Board, and Staff:

We, the Baptist Ministers' Night Conference of Baltimore & Vicinity (BMNCBV), applaud your ongoing efforts to address high costs of prescription drugs. For your information, the BMNCBV is a faith-based organization designed to serve bi-vocational clergy, persons whose schedule does not permit them to attend conferences that meet during the day. BMNCBV was formed in 2010, and our mission is to educate, and equip members with tools to strengthen themselves, families, communities, and relationships with others and above all with God; to become advocates to eradicate "social ills," e.g., healthcare, housing, education, workforce/economic development, and public safety, that not only negatively impact and denigrate individual and community quality of life, but also create a sense of hopelessness and despair. Our affiliations, including membership are greater than 200 organizations, consisting of faith and community-based organizations, healthcare providers, civic and government entities, businesses, etc., (this number does not include individual organization membership (constituent) totals).

As faith leaders and laypersons, we hear stories about the challenges our congregants face having to make a decision on which bills they will pay or forgo due to the high cost of prescription drugs. We appreciate the fact that in 2019 the Maryland General Assembly established the first in the nation Prescription Drug Affordability Board (PDAB) with the authority to set upper payment limits on the most expensive drugs purchased by local and state government. We believe that the current work of the PDAB, reviewing certain drugs, engaging in the cost review process, is one step closer to meaningful action being taken towards prescription drug affordability. Please quickly take action so that the Board may set upper payment limits on state and local governments and so that we in Maryland can work to expand the authority of the Board to apply to all Marylanders. We also ask that you consider health equity when selecting drugs for review.

Wishing you much success in this endeavour.

Peace and Blessings!!!

*Sandra Conner*

Rev. Dr. Sandra Conner  
BMNCBV President  
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