VIA Electronic Delivery
Oregon Prescription Drug Affordability Board
Department of Consumer and Business Services
350 Winter Street NE
Salem, OR 97309-0405

March 16, 2026

Re: March Oregon Prescription Drug Affordability Board Meeting

Dear Prescription Drug Affordability Board Members and Staff:

The Biotechnology Innovation Organization (BIO) appreciates the opportunity to provide comments for consideration at the Oregon Prescription Drug Affordability Board (PDAB)'s March 2026 meeting. Our comments below focus on the PDAB's policy recommendations for inclusion in the 2025 drug review report and the 2026 drug review preliminary lists.

BIO is the premier biotechnology advocacy organization representing biotech companies, industry leaders, and state biotech associations in the United States and more than 35 countries around the globe. BIO members range from biotech start-ups to some of the world's largest biopharmaceutical companies – all united by the same goal: to develop medical and scientific breakthroughs that prevent and fight disease, restore health, and improve patients' lives. BIO also organizes the BIO International Convention and a series of annual conferences that drive partnerships, investment, and progress within the sector.

Policy recommendations for inclusion in the 2025 drug review report

As we have previously commented, BIO appreciates that the Board has included certain policy concepts for the 2025 drug review report that would meaningfully address issues in the broader pharmaceutical supply chain. In particular, we support capping patient cost-sharing and passing on rebates to patients at point-of-sale as policy concepts for the Board to consider and further study. These policies would improve patient access and reduce patient out-of-pocket expenses.

2026 Drug Review Preliminary Lists

BIO remains concerned with the continued misleading information and inaccuracies that have been documented in the 2026 Drug Review Preliminary Lists. As BIO has commented previously, WAC and gross drug expenditures do not accurately reflect net cost to payers or patients' true out-of-pocket expenses and therefore are poor indicators for affordability reviews. In addition, the 2026 Drug Review Preliminary Lists continue to display data errors; for instance, many of the WAC prices listed for a specific drug are lower than the listed "average cost net of rebate per prescription," and other WAC prices are listed as one dollar and even as low as zero dollars. Despite BIO and other stakeholders' continued efforts to relay these concerns to the Board, the Board continues its misleading use of WAC and gross drug expenditures and has not yet acknowledged or corrected any of these data errors in the 2026 Drug Review.

In addition, BIO reiterates its concerns around the Board's selection of orphan drugs for the Preliminary lists, which is in clear conflict with the PDAB Statute. The statute explicitly exempts orphan designated drugs from affordability reviews, as it recognizes the importance of the orphan drug exception and the need to maximize protection for rare disease drugs. As BIO has previously commented, the PDAB must implement the orphan drug exclusion as intended by statute to be maximally protective of orphan drugs, in recognition of the unique need to maintain incentives for developing new therapies targeting rare diseases.

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BIO appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback to the Board through these March meeting materials. We look forward to continuing to work with the Board to ensure Oregon residents can access medicines in an efficient, affordable, and timely manner.

Sincerely,

Melody Calkins

Director, Health Policy

Biotechnology Innovation Organization