



NYCPS New York City Pharmacists Society

An Affiliate of the Pharmacists Society of the State of New York

SPECIAL BULLITEN

JUNE 27, 2011

OPERATION AMMO: LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



June 20, 2011, 3:45pm, Just moments ago I got word that the New York State Senate passed our Anti-Mandatory-Mail-Order (AMMO) bill, S-3510. Last week the bill passed the Assembly unanimously. This is a terrific victory for independent pharmacy owners throughout the state. The only step that remains is for Governor Cuomo to sign the bill into law, which will allow many people to choose to fill their prescriptions in

their community pharmacy instead of being forced into a mail order program. Although this law does not prohibit all mandatory mail order Rx programs, its passing with overwhelming support in both houses of the state legislature has great significance, not just here in New York but nationally. It is the first time that owners of independent pharmacies were successful in promoting legislation attacking the menace of the PBMs.

This process was not an easy task, by any stretch of the imagination. From its beginning in October of 2010, Operation AMMO faced tremendous opposition from the insurance industry, the PBMs and others, including some legislators who get large campaign contributions from our

opponents. Our success was due to the intensity and focus that we brought to the project. My thanks goes first and foremost to NYCPS Board Chairman Charles Catalano, who was along with me every step of the way, providing great advice and encouragement. NYCPS lobbyist Tracy Tress worked tirelessly on this project, providing us with her expertise and direction, along with excellent coordination from her staff at Malkin-Ross. PSSNY lobbyist Elizabeth Lasky was indispensable, working alongside Tracy, Charles and me at countless meetings with legislators, and seemingly endless conference calls. My appreciation goes to the NYCPS board for their loyalty and unquestioning support.

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The New York City Pharmacists Society

Invaluable help was provided by the PSSNY board and Executive Director Craig Burridge, who, along with Elizabeth, garnered "Memos of Support" for our legislation from various sources. We employed a public relations person, Bob Liff, whose actions in the beginning of our quest led to a broad-based awareness of AMMO. There were so many people actively involved in Operation AMMO, from Buffalo to Brooklyn, from the Finger Lakes to Flushing, who deserve acknowledgement, however, they'll have to take my blanket, yet sincere, "THANK YOU".

We have two great friends in the legislature, Assembly member Carl Heastie (D-Bronx) and Senator George Maziarz (R-Newfane), who were the sponsors of our legislation. Both of them were courageous in their support of our bill in the face of significant opposition by the PBMs. They

have proven to be true friends of pharmacy, while advocating for our patients who are their constituents.

OK, now that I'm done with the "thank you's", it's time for me to ask for something. This legislation will have a positive impact on ALL independent pharmacy owners, those who are not members of the state society, as well as those who are members; those who were active in working to get the AMMO bill passed, as well as those who stood by the sidelines. I am asking ALL owners of independent pharmacies in New York City to become members of NYCPS. I am asking ALL owners of independent pharmacies throughout the state to become members of their respective regional affiliate of PSSNY, which would also include membership into the state society. We have proven that when pharmacists work together in an organized manner, things can be

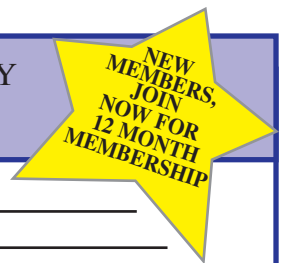
accomplished. Paying your PSSNY dues entitles you to automatic membership in your regional affiliate. There is an application form on this communication. If you are not a paid-up member, PLEASE JOIN NOW. We can only be effective when it can be shown that we represent a large number of pharmacists. Each independent pharmacy will benefit financially from the AMMO legislation passing. Please show your respect and support for those who worked so hard to get this done, by becoming an active member of the state society.

It's great that we finally have a political victory. There are more battles for us to fight, and hopefully win. Let's capitalize on the momentum that we have going for us now. No more defeatist attitudes..... no more negativity.

Ray Macioci
NYCPS President.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION—NEW YORK CITY PHARMACISTS SOCIETY

111 Broadway, Suite 2002, New York, NY 10006



NAME _____	DATE OF BIRTH _____
HOME ADDRESS _____	
HOME PHONE _____	E-MAIL _____
HOME CITY _____	HOME STATE _____
BUSINESS NAME _____	BUS. PHONE () _____
BUSINESS ADDRESS _____	BUS. FAX () _____
BUSINESS CITY _____	BUSINESS STATE _____
FAX NUMBER () _____	PHARMACY SCHOOL _____

Do you want your correspondence sent to: _____ HOME _____ BUSINESS

CHECK ONE:

_____ ACTIVE OWNER MEMBER (MUST HAVE A DEGREE IN PHARMACY).....	\$375.00	
_____ ACTIVE NON-OWNER MEMBER (MUST HAVE A DEGREE IN PHARMACY).....	\$300.00	
_____ ASSOCIATE MEMBER (NON-PHARMACIST).....	\$250.00	
_____ RETIREES.....	\$237.50	
_____ STUDENT — EXPECTED DATE OF GRADUATION _____	\$10.00	DUES _____

I WOULD LIKE TO ADD _____ (at least \$50.00) TO THE POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE. P.A.C. (VOLUNTARY) _____

I WOULD LIKE TO ADD _____ (sugg. \$100.00) TO THE LEGAL WAR CHEST FUND L.W.C (voluntary) _____

TOTAL _____

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