



TESTIMONY ON SB 34

**Submitted by Charles L. Frazier, RPH, MBA , Member
Governor's Commission on Senior Services
February 2007**

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*Representative George Gilman,
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*Senator Bill Morrisette,
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Dear Senator Morrisette

I am writing you to support SB 34, Prescription Drug Monitoring. I am a member of the Governor's Commission on Senior Services; and a recently retired Pharmacist with 44 years of experience as a retail pharmacist and a consultant pharmacist. The need for legislation to establish a medically based data base to monitor controlled drug dispensing patterns is long over due. Prescribing practitioners and pharmacists have been victimized for years by "doctor shoppers" and "pharmacy hoppers" with no practical way to protect them selves.

A further consideration is that patients in pain are sometimes denied the aggressive pain management they need due to the prescribing practitioners reluctance to order a narcotic. Aggressive DEA enforcement, though necessary, has over the years, put the defenseless prescriber and pharmacist at risk of sanctions. This legislation will provide a practical way for prescribing practitioners and pharmacists to check on suspect prescription patterns.

Placing this program under the supervision of the Board of Pharmacy keeps the data under medical ethical and HIPPA over site. Thus, participation in the Monitoring Program should reduce the practitioner's fear of sanction and allow for the appropriate use of controlled medications. This factor will be of great benefit to the chronic pain sufferer and the frail elderly needing pain management help.

The passage of SB 34 will be of great benefit to all Oregonians.

