

**Resolution 18-316**  
**Denial of Prescriptions by Walmart Health & Wellness Practice Compliance Office**  
Escambia County Medical Society, Santa Rosa County Medical Society

1 Whereas, The corporate entity Walmart has, as recently as June 8 and June 10, 2018, sent letters from  
2 their corporate headquarters in Arkansas to Florida physicians indicating that no Walmart pharmacy  
3 would fill legally written controlled substances prescription from those physicians; and  
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5 Whereas, The justification for denying patients medications given by Walmart was “the physician’s  
6 prescribing patterns and other factors,”; and  
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8 Whereas, The physicians in question and their employers could not, despite requests, obtain specific  
9 information or parameters regarding “prescribing patterns and other factors,”; and  
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11 Whereas, There is no recourse to insure patients receive needed medication or means for physicians to  
12 address Walmart’s concerns regarding “prescribing patterns and other factors,”; and  
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14 Whereas, This may be a strategic corporate response to the opioid crises, Walmart should not assume  
15 the role of or extension of the enforcing arm of the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency; and  
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17 Whereas, The U.S. opioid crisis is a complex, multifactorial issue and is being aggressively and effectively  
18 addressed by governmental laws in collaboration with physicians and physician organizations; and  
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20 Whereas, Assistance offered by pharmacists and their employers to address nationwide opioid crisis is  
21 welcomed but will be more effective if done in a more open and collaborative manor; therefore, be it  
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23 RESOLVED, That the FMA communicate to Walmart the need for their community pharmacists to  
24 collaborate with the local physicians by openly publish and providing specific “prescribing patterns and  
25 other factors” parameters that they are monitoring and offer a time frame for recourse; and be it  
26 further  
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28 RESOLVED, That the FMA request Walmart discontinue sending and rescind physicians letters addressing  
29 “the physician’s prescribing patterns and other factors” until a more collaborative approach to the  
30 opioid crisis can be agreed upon; and be it further  
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32 RESOLVED, That the FMA request the AMA, state associations, and national specialty society societies  
33 engage national pharmacist’s organizations and corporate entities to ensure that physicians and  
34 pharmacist are collaborating to more effectively address the opioid crisis while not endangering patients  
35 or interfering with physician’s ability to care for patients.  
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Fiscal Note:

Description	Amount	Budget Narrative
20 staff hours	\$1,250	Can be accomplished with current staff
Total	\$1,250	\$0 added to the operating budget

*Fiscal notes are an estimate of the cost to implement a given Resolution. All Resolutions that are adopted by the House of Delegates will be referred to the FMA Committee on Finance and Appropriations for fiscal consideration.*

Reference Committee:            III – Legislation & Miscellaneous