Dear Advocates – We understand that the Senate will hold a ‘test vote’ on their current pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) reform package, which includes the Safe Step Act, during the week of July 10.

**Will you join us early in the week of July 10 in encouraging Senators to support passing the Safe Step Act in the PBM reform package?**

If you’d like to get involved, there are a few ways that you can share your experience and speak up for change. Please choose one, two, or three of the activities below. Instructions for each activity are included in this toolkit.

1. Call your Senators
2. Email your Representative and two Senators
3. Post on social media and tag your Senators

Choose your own adventure! Any of these options will work to register your support with your legislators and encourage them to advance the Safe Step Act. The point is to generate as much positive advocacy outreach as possible early in the week of July 10.

**About the bill:** Below is a summary and links where you can learn more about the bill.

- **S 652/HR 2630, the Safe Step Act**, would ensure that employer plans/PBMs offer an expedient and medically reasonable step therapy exceptions process. This will empower individuals to navigate their insurance and help them access the treatments they need in time. [Read the flyer and see the 215 orgs that support the bill.](#)

Thank you for taking action! Thanks to your advocacy, the Safe Step Act has unprecedented support in Congress. Keeping up the drumbeat will go a long way towards encouraging legislators to act on our behalf.

We will continue to provide additional toolkits as the PBM reform package works its way through the legislative process. Let’ go!
Instructions for Activity 1  
Call Your Senators

1. Find your two Senators by selecting your state in the box in the top left corner of www.senate.gov.
2. Call the “(202) 224-XXXX” phone number listed under each Senator’s photo
3. Relay a message like the one in the sample script below (feel free to personalize!):

Sample phone call script:

“Hi! My name is [NAME], and I am a constituent from [TOWN]. I understand that the Senate will hold a ‘test vote’ for the current pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) reform package during the week of July 10. I am calling to ask your boss to support passing the Safe Step Act in the PBM reform package. Any PBM reform must put patients first and include the Safe Step Act.

The Safe Step Act will help patients access treatments in time by ensuring plans offer a reasonable step therapy exceptions process. This bill is important to me because [briefly explain your reasons—for example, your experiences with step therapy if you have them, or the importance of accessing medicine if you don’t].

Will you pass that on to the Senator? Thanks for your help!”

Instructions for Activity 2  
Email your Legislators

We encourage you to email either one, two, or all three of your legislators - your House Representative and two Senators - to encourage them to support passing the Safe Step Act as part of the pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) reform package. It’s easy to email all three of your legislators using the template in this link.

Alternatively, if you have a staff contact in your legislators offices, you can email them directly using the sample email below. As always – please personalize your outreach.

Sample email:
As a constituent, I write to ask you to support passing the Safe Step Act as part of the broader pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) reform package.

Insurance-mandated step therapy requires patients to try and fail one or more medications before the health plan will cover the drug initially selected by the patient and their provider. When inappropriate, step therapy can delay needed care and result in severe or irreversible health outcomes.
The Safe Step Act would ensure employer plans offer a reasonable step therapy exceptions process so that patients can seek an exception before they experience physical harm.

Please cosponsor HR 2630/S 652, the Safe Step Act, and support passing it in PBM reform. Any health system reforms must be patient-centered and include the Safe Step Act.

**Instructions for Activity 3**

**Post on Social Media**

Social media is a great way to quickly flag an issue for your legislators and key committees. When posting on Twitter or Facebook, please make sure to:

- Include the hashtag #SafeStepAct
- Tag your two Senators (see the attached spreadsheet)
- Tag Senate leadership, included in the drafts below
- If you volunteer with an organization, tag your organization

Below are sample messages, followed by images, that you can post:

Meaningful #pbm reform must protect patients and include #SafeStepAct #S652
[https://www.washingtonpost.com/wellness/2023/02/06/prior-authorization-fail-first-step-therapy/](https://www.washingtonpost.com/wellness/2023/02/06/prior-authorization-fail-first-step-therapy/) @VP @PattyMurray @SenSchumer @LeaderMcConnell

Doctors prescribe and patients get healthy. That's how it should work but it's not that easy. #PBM reform must protect patients and include #SafeStepAct #S652 @VP @PattyMurray @SenSchumer @LeaderMcConnell

When #NY passed #steptherapyreform--support was overwhelming. Read why in this @Newsday Editorial and support the #SafeStepAct in #PBM reform @VP @PattyMurray @SenSchumer @LeaderMcConnell #S652 [http://www.newsday.com/opinion/editorial/give-patients-the-chance-to-get-the-right-medicine-1.11954056](http://www.newsday.com/opinion/editorial/give-patients-the-chance-to-get-the-right-medicine-1.11954056)

Dozens of states including #NewYork #California #Kentucky and #Washington have passed #SafeStepAct. Now we need action from #Congress @VP @PattyMurray @SenSchumer @LeaderMcConnell

Patients shouldn’t have to ‘fail first’ on meds before getting access to better treatments. #Senators! Please pass the #SafeStepAct in PBM reform to support patient access to the medications they need. #S652 @VP @PattyMurray @SenSchumer @LeaderMcConnell
Put patients first.

Pass the #SafeStepAct
PUT PATIENTS FIRST.
Pass the #SafeStepAct