THE 340B DRUG PRICING PROGRAM PROVIDES CRITICAL SUPPORT to safety-net, critical access, children’s specialty hospitals and cancer treatment centers that offer affordable prescription drugs to financially vulnerable and fragile patients.

Despite the program’s proven record of success, and the resulting decreased government spending, some want to shrink the program by further limiting participation in the program. This would result in reduced access to lower drug pricing, and the benefits to participating hospitals and the patients they serve.

SECTION 340B OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ACT:
• Requires pharmaceutical manufacturers who participate in the Medicaid program to sell outpatient drugs at discount prices to qualifying hospitals and other healthcare providers who provide care for a large number of low-income patients and populations in rural America;
• Is small, only accounting for 2% of the $325 billion in annual drug purchases in the U.S. However, the program is essential for Illinois’ most vulnerable populations and has a significant positive impact on the healthcare delivery system at little cost; and
• Is essential to helping safety-net and critical access hospitals stretch limited resources to better serve their patients and communities. The cost controls and resources provided through this program must be protected.

WE ASK CONGRESS TO:
Protect the 340B program and reject any proposals to scale back eligibility and reduce the benefits it provides to hospitals and the communities they serve.