

WHEREAS, innovation within the biopharmaceutical sector leads to new discoveries that save lives and help this important U.S. industry remain competitive globally; and,

WHEREAS, North America's Building Trades Unions have matched that innovation by investing over \$1 billion each year in training to produce the safest, most reliable and highly skilled workers in the world; and,

WHEREAS, this competitive edge has positioned the U.S. pharmaceutical sector as one of the few manufacturing industries that still maintains a significant employment footprint domestically, supporting more than 3.2 million American jobs; and,

WHEREAS, chronic diseases and conditions - such as heart disease, arthritis, COPD, asthma, depression, and diabetes – are the leading causes of death, disability, and rising healthcare costs in America; and,

WHEREAS taking the right medications exactly as prescribed is critical for treating and preventing the progression of chronic disease and reduces overall healthcare costs through reductions in hospitalizations; and,

WHEREAS, 27 percent of Americans today suffer from multiple chronic conditions (MCC) and commonly take multiple medications to treat their coexisting conditions; and,

WHEREAS, medication synchronization is the ability to simultaneously fill two or more prescriptions at once; and,

WHEREAS, allowing the synchronization of refills for patients with MCC who take two or more medications would greatly reduce the burden on patients by reducing the number of pharmacy visits and thus removing barriers to proper medication adherence; and,

WHEREAS, comprehensive medication management (CMM) is defined as the standard of care that ensures each patient's medications are individually assessed to ensure that the medication is: 1) appropriate, 2) effective for the medical condition, 3) safe given the patient's comorbidities and with other medications they are taking, and 4) the patient is willing and able to take the medication as prescribed; and,

WHEREAS, CMM involves regular interaction between the patient and healthcare provider to ensure they are meeting their clinical goals of therapy with the prescriber having ultimate decision making authority for any changes made to the patient's medication or treatment regimen; and,

WHEREAS, CMM has consistently provided a \$4: \$1 return on investment which ultimately reduces overall healthcare costs (including facility and medical costs).

BE IT RESOLVED that the union and industry trustees of the Pharmaceutical Industry Labor-Management Association (PILMA) recognize that proper medication adherence is crucial to the prevention and treatment of chronic disease for patients and their providers; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that PILMA encourages agency action to provide CMM and implement medication synchronization for high risk Medicaid, dual eligible, Medicare and public health plan beneficiaries; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that PILMA encourages policymakers to introduce legislation to provide CMM and to implement medication synchronization to high risk patients in state insurance exchanges; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that PILMA will advocate for implementation of CMM and medication synchronization to policymakers, allies and other key stakeholders.