



Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

Room 168 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120-3031
(717) 787-8524
FAX (717) 772-0576

Senator Patricia H. Vance
Chairman

Amy Powell Bolze, Esq.
Executive Director

Summary SR 70 PN 789

This resolution directs the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee (LB & FC) to study the issue of specialty tier prescription drug pricing and its impact on patient care and access to medications.

Historically, specialty drugs have been placed on a fourth or greater drug tier by prescription drug benefit plans. The effect is that the cost to consumers is greater than if the drug were placed on a lower tier.

Some of the conditions treated with specialty drugs are: hemophilia, multiple sclerosis, lupus, some cancers and rheumatoid arthritis. The number of these drugs as well as utilization and unit cost is expected to increase.

LB & FC is required to report its findings to the Senate no later than January 30, 2014.