

**STATEMENT FOR THE RECORD
BEFORE THE VIRGINIA HOUSE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE
ON THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG AFFORDABILITY BOARD**

**February 1, 2024
Shirley Modlin, owner of
3D Design and Manufacturing LLC**

Dear Chairwoman Ward, Vice Chairwoman Herring, and members of the Committee:

My name is Shirley Modlin and, together with my husband, we are the co-owners of 3D Design and Manufacturing, LLC based in Powhatan, Virginia. Our company has engineering and manufacturing capabilities with 40-plus years of experience in the industry. I am also a member of Small Business Majority's Virginia Small Business Council, a small business organization that empowers America's diverse small businesses to build a thriving and equitable economy.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss my strong support for House Bill 570 Prescription Drug Affordability Board, which would establish a Prescription Drug Affordability Review for the purpose of protecting employers, employees and other stakeholders within the healthcare system from the high costs of prescription drug products. This legislation would help address the high cost of prescription drugs, which places a burden on me as a small business owner and my employees.

My employees are like family members, and I do my best to support their needs as much as possible. However, I cannot afford to substantially assist with the cost of covering prescription drugs, so my employees are placed with this unnecessary burden. The rise in healthcare costs is impacting both small businesses and Virginians alike. In fact, Virginians spent [36% more per person on prescription drugs](#) than the national average in 2020—\$1,500 compared to \$1,100 nationally. That's \$400 more per year that could be invested back into businesses and basic necessities. Meanwhile, [Small Business Majority research](#) found that Virginia small businesses cite healthcare costs as one of the top issues they face. This is why small business owners like me are looking to state lawmakers to pass a common-sense policy that will help alleviate the financial burden of high healthcare costs for small businesses and their employees.

Virginia needs a Prescription Drug Affordability Board to make medicines more affordable for entrepreneurs and to rein in out-of-control price hikes that are hurting Virginians. House Bill 570 is a bipartisan legislation that would address affordability in Virginia. That's why I urge you to vote yes on this bill that will support businesses like mine and our employees across the state.

Sincerely,

Shirley Modlin
Co-owner
3D Design and Manufacturing LLC