**“White Bagging” Fact Sheet**

The New York State Council of Health-system Pharmacists

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The Medication Integrity Act - Elimination of White and Brown Bagging

S7252 (Breslin)

**Fact Sheet**

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**Who the bill applies to:**

* Health-system pharmacists and providers
* State-regulated health insurers

**What the bill does:**

* Prohibits “brown bagging”, which refers to a health insurer requiring the use of an insurer-designated pharmacy to dispense a drug directly to a patient, who then delivers the drug to a clinician for administration.
* Prohibits "white bagging", which refers to an insurer requiring the distribution of patient-specific medication from an insurer-designated pharmacy to a physician's office, hospital or clinic
* Authorizes an insurer to offer coverage for, but not require, the use of a home infusion pharmacy to dispense intravenous drugs that have been ordered by a physician for administration to a patient at a site other than the patient's provider site.
* Prohibits "white bagging" for medications that require real-time dose adjustments based on same day lab or test results, or medications requiring sterile compounding by a provider

**Why this legislation is needed:**

* Establishes patient safety and quality assurance measures regarding the distribution of patient-specific medication from an insurer-designated pharmacy
* White bagging can lead to potential issues with medication integrity including improper storage and delivery delays
* Causes unnecessary delay in treatment, complicates care coordination for patient, and may result in additional delivery charges for patient
* Prescriptions sent to outside pharmacy bypasses health-system EHR safety checks
* Avoid unexpected or surprise deliveries create significant, avoidable challenges to health systems

**Support:**

* Strongly supported by the New York State Council of Health System Pharmacists