HB 339 -- Wholesale Distributors of Prescription Drugs

Sponsor: Hunter

This bill changes the laws regarding wholesale distribution of prescription drugs. The bill:

(1) Requires all applicants for licensure as wholesale distributors to provide a minimum amount of information regarding themselves and their wholesale business;

(2) Establishes certain criteria which all applicants must meet prior to being issued a license;

(3) Requires licensees to be bonded and authorizes the State Board of Pharmacy to create a fund for these bonds;

(4) Allows pharmacies to return prescription drugs to the drug manufacturer or wholesale distributor where they originally purchased them;

(5) Requires manufacturers and wholesalers to distribute only to persons licensed by the board;

(6) Requires manufacturers and wholesalers to deliver prescription drugs only to the premises listed on the license;

(7) Requires manufacturers and wholesalers to accept payment for the purchase of prescription drugs only from the pharmacy owner of record;

(8) Requires persons engaged in the wholesale distribution of a prescription drug to provide a pedigree or electronic file identifying each sale, trade, or transfer of a prescription drug;

(9) Authorizes the board to promulgate rules regarding the wholesale distribution of prescription drugs no later than 120 days after August 28, 2007;

(10) Authorizes the board to suspend and revoke licenses and issue orders requiring the appropriate person to cease distribution of prescription drugs;

(11) Makes any person violating these provisions guilty of a class C felony and subject to a fine of no more than \$500,000; and

(12) Requires the board to determine by July 1, 2009, a targeted implementation date for electronic track and trace pedigree technology.