

HB 545 -- Practice of Pharmacy

Sponsor: Wasson

This bill revises the definition of "practice of pharmacy" to include the implementation of medical or veterinary prescription orders and authorizes the design and implementation of a medication therapeutic plan defined by a specific prescription order. Physician protocols referring to the patient are required and will not come from a nurse under a collaborative agreement with a physician.

Health carriers are prohibited from requiring any physician with whom they contract to enter into a written protocol with a pharmacist for medication therapeutic services. The State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts and the State Board of Pharmacy are authorized to promulgate rules regulating prescription orders for medication therapy services.

The bill prohibits any person other than the patient or the patient's authorized representative from accepting a dispensed prescription order unless that person is on the premises of a pharmacy.

The State Board of Pharmacy may establish the Well-being Committee to aid pharmacists who suffer from illness, substance abuse, mental illness, or physical impairments. The board will enter into contractual agreements with nonprofit corporations for the purpose of creating, supporting, and maintaining the committee. All communications involving the licensee and the committee are confidential and not considered public records.

The committee may disclose information about an impaired licensee when it is necessary to further the intervention, treatment, or rehabilitation of the licensee; the release is authorized by the licensee; the committee must make a report to the board; or the information is subject to a court order.