

HCS HB 545 & 590 -- PRACTICE OF PHARMACY (Tilley)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Special Committee on General Laws

This substitute revises the definition of "practice of pharmacy" to include the implementation of medical prescription orders and authorizes the design and implementation of a medication therapeutic plan defined by a specific prescription order or administration of influenza vaccines by written protocol authorized by a physician. 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 substitute 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.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on General Revenue Fund in FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010. Estimated Effect on Other State Funds of a cost of \$19,899 in FY 2008, an income of \$4,837 in FY 2009, and a cost of \$1,273 in FY 2010.