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REPRESENTATIVE PAUL SEATON
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House Bill 344

Sectional

Section 1 (*Pg 1, Line 4*)

This section allows pharmacists or providers delegate the submittal of information to the database to an authorized employee or agent. This section also requires that pharmacists submit data in near real time, in the procedure established by the Board of Pharmacy.

Section 2 (*Pg 2, Line 20*)

This section requires that the information in the database remain confidential and describes who is permitted to access the database. Under this bill, a practitioner or pharmacist may delegate access to an authorized agent or employee. Access is also granted to the lead Medicaid pharmacist and the Medicaid Utilization review committee to review drug utilization in the Medicaid program. It is also granted to the State Medical Examiner for investigation into cause of death. Finally, this section allows that authorized employees of Health and Social Services may receive de-identified information from the database for public health.

Section 3 (*Pg 4, Line 5*)

AS 17.30.200 (e) is amended to state that the failure of the pharmacists or providers to **register** or submit information to the database is grounds for the board to take disciplinary action.

Section 4 (*Pg 4, Line 11*)

Deletes language stating that dispensers or practitioners are not obligated to check the database prior to dispensing, to conform to the requirement on dispensers in section 5.

Section 5 (*Pg 4, Line 20*)

This section requires that a dispenser or their authorized agent or employee shall check the database prior to dispensing and submit the prescription information to the database in near real time.

Section 6 (*Pg 5, Line 6*)

This section adds new subsections that include in subsection (o) an exemption made for practitioners or pharmacist who cannot update the database in near real time due to technological barriers and in subsection (p) creates an automatic electronic alert system when someone has prescriptions inconsistent with general standards. Subsection (q) requires all healthcare providers who prescribe, dispense, or administer a controlled substance to register with the prescription drug database and subsection (r) directs the board of pharmacy to notify the necessary medical board when a practitioner registers with the database.

Section 7 (*Pg 5, Line 27*)

This section allows the board of pharmacy to adopt the regulations necessary to implement this act.

Section 8 (*Pg 6, Line 2*)

This section directs that all dispensers *and prescribers* shall register with the database within 180 of the effective date of the bill, allowing additional time to register. The board of pharmacy shall provide information to other boards on how to register and comply with database.

Section 9 (*Pg 6, Line 12*)

The regulatory authority under this act takes effect July 1, 2016.

Section 10 (*Pg 6, Line 13*)

Except in section 9, the changes created by this act take effect January 1, 2017.