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Summary of Changes: Version H to Version E HB 344 – Drug Prescription Database

Title

On lines 2- 4 the title has been expanded to include ‘relating to the prescription of opiates; relating to the practice of dentistry; relating to the practice of medicine; relating to the practice of nursing; relating to the practice of optometry’ to reflect the inclusion of seven day prescription restriction.

Section 1-12

New sections 1-12 were added to limit opiate prescriptions under the following boards; dentistry, medicine, nursing, and optometry. Under each board, an initial opiate prescription is limited to seven days unless the practitioner documents a logistical or medical need for a longer supply, and prescriptions in excess of the dosage without documented reasons can be grounds for disciplinary action.

Section 13

Language referencing the state controlled substance schedules and federal schedules I and V has been removed; this will limit the database to only drugs in the federal schedules II, III, and IV. Language regarding the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development assisting the board of pharmacy with implementing the database has been moved to a later section.

Section 14

Language referencing the state controlled substance schedules and federal schedules I and V has been removed; this means the database will only be accessed for drugs in the federal schedule II, III, and IV. The reporting requirement in this section has changed, from *near-real-time* to *at least weekly*.

Section 18

Language directing dispensers to access the database prior to dispensing and to report the prescription at near real time has been deleted and replaced with subsections k (3), k (4), and k (5) requiring all practitioners to check the database prior to dispensing, prescribing, or administering but creating exemptions for emergent situations or surgery and creating alternate procedures for practitioners with technological barriers.

Section 19

The language previously in subsection (o), creating a technology exemption, has been moved to section 18. The remaining subsections have been reordered.

Subsection (p) (*previously subsection q*) has been amended to reflect that the database has been limited to only schedule II, III, or IV controlled substances.

A new subsection (r) has been added to state that a practitioner may only delegate database access or information submittal to an agent or employee who is who is licensed or registered in the state.

Subsection (s) directs DCEED to assist the board of pharmacy in implementing this section, language that was previously under AS 17.30.200(a). Additionally, the department shall establish regulations for registration with the database, which will cover the cost of the database minus all federal funds.

Section 21

Subsection (b) has been amended to limit the references to only federal schedule II, III, or IV controlled substances.

Section 22 and Section 23

Sections referenced here have been renumbered accordingly.