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REPRESENTATIVE PAUL SEATON
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Summary of Changes: Version H to Version N
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; relating to the practice of veterinary medicine' 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. Additional language was added to section 1 (Board of Dental Examiners), section 7 (Board of Nursing), and section 10 (Board of Optometry) allowing disciplinary action if drugs are dispensed, prescribed or sold drugs in violation of law regardless of whether there has been criminal actions. This mirrors existing language in the State Medical Board (section 4).

Section 13
This new section adds language to the Board of Veterinary Examiners allowing disciplinary action if drugs are dispensed, prescribed or sold drugs in violation of law regardless of whether there has been criminal actions. This mirrors existing language in the State Medical Board (section 4).

Section 14
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 15
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 16
AS 17.30.200(d)(3) has been amended to state that a licensed *or registered* practitioner with prescription authority is allowed access to the database. This is intended to capture practitioners in federal facilities that are not required to be licensed with the state but that may be registered.

Section 19
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 schedule II, III, or IV controlled substances but creating exemptions for emergent situations, surgery or medical procedures. This section also creates alternate procedures for practitioners with technological barriers, previously included in a later section.

Section 20
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 (q) 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 (r) directs the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development to notify each board when a practitioner registers with the database (previously required of the Board of Pharmacy). The Board of Veterinary Examiners was and 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
The transition regulatory authority has been expanded from just the Board of Pharmacy to now include the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development and each board whose licensees will be required to register.

Section 22
The transition language has been amended to require the Board of Pharmacy to provide information and training on this act to the other boards. Subsection (b) has been deleted.

New Subsection 23
New subsection 23 has been added which will enact AS 17.30.200(r) in September 1, 2016. This is the section the Department to establish registration fees.

Section 24
The effective date (relating to transition language) has been amended to take effect immediately.

Section 25
The effective date of the bill has been amended to July 1, 2017.