

## Taneeka Hansen

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**From:** Rice, Kristi D (HSC) <Kristi-Rice@ouhsc.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 23, 2016 3:00 PM  
**To:** Rep. Paul Seaton  
**Subject:** HB 344, an Oklahoma Pharmacy Student's perspective  
**Attachments:** letter to congress on letterhead.docx

Honorable Representative Seaton,

My name is Kristi Rice and I am a Pharmacy Intern from The University of Oklahoma Health Science Center College of Pharmacy, interning at Whale Tail Pharmacy, in Craig, Alaska. I appreciate the opportunity to address the House Bill 344.

In May of 2011, I began working at an independent pharmacy, in Oklahoma, where I quickly began to realize how hectic and performance related the environment of a pharmacy can be. As I observed and now perform as an intern, one of the duties of a pharmacist is to check the usage of each medication, for each patient, and determine if the usage is excessive, within normal limits, or that it is not duplicate therapy. Pharmacists have many tools (i.e. patient's computer profile, long-term patient fill history, patient's insurance information, etc.) that help them perform this task. One other tool commonly used to perform this task is the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) database (in Oklahoma it is the PMP), which contains control and narcotic prescription records for patients.

The PDMP serves as a great tool for monitoring false prescriptions and patients who may have illegal intentions. Therefore, having this tool and its ability to check unknown or unfamiliar patients' prescription use is most helpful; however, **if pharmacist and prescribers are tasked with checking every patient, regardless of their professional judgment, this could become a time consuming task, taking away from important and necessary medical services, such as counseling patients.**

It would be beneficial for the providers to have the wording of this bill read, "using reasonable professional judgment" instead of the current wording of "before dispensing". The current statement in the Oklahoma Pharmacy law book has similar wording for dispensing, "pharmacist's professional judgment", page 49. Another reference is the Oklahoma Board of Medicine who requires their doctors to check the PMP for prescribing controls or narcotics to new patients, then again every 180 days, page 6 of HB 1948.

I appreciate your time.

Sincerely,

Kristi Rice

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