

Alaska State Legislature

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Representative Justin Ruffridge
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House Bill 112

Sectional Analysis

"An Act relating to the Board of Pharmacy; relating to the practice of pharmacy; relating to pharmacies; relating to prescription drug manufacturers; relating to prescriptions for epinephrine; relating to the administration of epinephrine; and providing for an effective date."

Section 1. Amends AS 08.08.010(a) Creation and membership of board; officers

Alters composition of the seven-member Board of Pharmacy by designating one member to be a licensed pharmacy technician, and one being an individual with no financial interest in the healthcare industry

Section 2. Amends AS 08.80.030 Powers and Duties of Board

(b)(10) Separates out the licensing/regulating entities relating to manufacturing and distributing of drugs and devices by use of the word "or"

(b)(12) adds an epinephrine auto-injector training program

(b)(14) Clarifies that only pharmacists who dispense federally scheduled controlled substances be required to register with the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)

(b)(16) Adds pharmacies and manufacturers from out-of-state to the list of entities to be licensed and inspected

(b)(17) Adds internet-based pharmacies to the list of entities to be licensed if they are servicing Alaskans

(b)(18) adds language adopting regulations pertaining to retired pharmacist status

Section 3. Amends 08.80.145 Reciprocity; license transfer

(3) removes character requirement - “of good moral character”

(4) removes internship details – this is a national standard among schools of pharmacy

Renumbering of statute items

Section 4. Amends AS 08.80.157 Licensing of facilities

(k) this adds out-of-state pharmacies and manufacturers to the list of entities that must be licensed and inspected

Section 5. Amends AS 08.80.159 Licensing and inspection of facilities outside the state

(a) Adds “distributor, pharmacy, manufacturer” to those out-of-state entities that must be licensed and inspected, under the Drug Supply Chain and Security Act

Section 6. Amends AS 08.80.159 Licensing and inspection of facilities outside the state

(c) adds “pharmacy and manufacturer” to list that may be inspected if located outside the state

Section 7. Amends AS 08.80.160 Fees

(10) Removes the word “registration” since the bill mandates licensure of a facility

Section 8. Amends 08.80.168 and adds a new subsection – Administration of vaccines and related emergencies

(e) Allows a pharmacist to administer epinephrine to a person or prescribe epinephrine auto-injectors to someone who has completed the epinephrine auto-injector training program

Section 9. Amends AS 08.80.270 Executive administrator of the board

(a) Adds an additional salary range option for the executive administrator, allowing flexibility for the Division to select a pharmacist for the role

Section 10. Amends AS 08.80.420 Certain advertising prohibited

(a) adds the term “apothecary” to list of those that cannot be used in media or advertising unless the store employs a licensed pharmacist with regular hours

Section 11. Amends AS 12.62.400 National criminal history record check

(a)(23) adds pharmacist and pharmacy technician to list of professions where a background check is required. Aligns with State of Alaska’s nursing requirements and pharmacy requirements typical in other states. This adds a national level background check

Section 12. Amends AS 17.22.010 Prescription, purchase, administration of epinephrine by a trained individual

Allows anyone over 18 to purchase or be prescribed an epinephrine auto-injector, and to administer epinephrine in an emergency to another person if they have completed an epinephrine auto-injector training program approved by the board. It removes very outdated language from this section

Section 13. Amends AS 17.22.020(a) Approval of training programs

(a) Allows the board, rather than the department, to adopt standards for the epinephrine auto-injector training program and deletes outdated language

Section 14. Amends AS 17.22.020(b) Approval of training programs

(b) Allows the board, rather than the department, to approve an epinephrine auto-injector training program that meets the board’s standards

Section 15. Amends AS 17.22.030 Applicability

States that this chapter does not apply to someone currently authorized under another law to administer epinephrine, such as a nurse or doctor, or some other authorized professional

Section 16. Amends AS 17.22.040 Liability of certified individual

Outlines that a person may not be sued who administers epinephrine to another in an emergency, and in good faith, if he or she has completed the epinephrine auto-injector training program approved by the board

Section 17. Amends AS 17.22.090 Definitions

(3) defines the “board” as the Board of Pharmacy

Section 18. Repeals AS 08.80.110(2) Qualifications for licensure by examination

- Repeals (2) furnish the board with at least two affidavits from reputable citizens that the applicant has known for at least one year attesting to the applicant’s good moral character. This is not required in medical board, dental or nursing statutes.
- Repeals 08.80.158 *Registration* of pharmacies located outside the state since this bill would now *require* licensure
- Repeals AS 17.22.020(c) which is the Department’s epinephrine auto-injector training program
- Repeals AS 17.22.090(1) that defines the department as the Dept of Health, since it will no longer be the approving entity of the epinephrine auto-injector training program

Section 19. TRANSITION LANGUAGE for currently registered pharmacies

A new section that would allow pharmacies previously registered to continue to ship, mail or deliver prescription drugs to its customers in Alaska until their registration expires. At that time, they will then have to apply for licensure.

Section 20. TRANSITION: REGULATIONS

Allows the Board of Pharmacy and DCCED to adopt regulations to carry out the changes laid out in this legislation.

Section 21. Section 20 has an immediate effective date under AS 01.10.070(c)

Section 22: Effective date is set to coincide with the Drug Supply Chain and Security Act that will go into effect on November 26, 2023.