

1-1 By: Ellis, Gallegos S.B. No. 518  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 15, 2005; February 28, 2005,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Human  
1-4 Services; May 16, 2005, reported adversely, with favorable  
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0;  
1-6 May 16, 2005, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 518 By: Nelson

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to the provision of certain information regarding free and  
1-11 discounted drugs by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 554, Occupations Code, is  
1-14 amended by adding Section 554.016 to read as follows:

1-15 Sec. 554.016. FREE AND DISCOUNTED DRUG OFFER INFORMATION.

1-16 (a) The board shall:

1-17 (1) contact pharmaceutical companies to request  
1-18 information on any free or discounted drug offers made by the  
1-19 companies;

1-20 (2) on the board's Internet website, post information  
1-21 and create links to other websites on free or discounted drug offers  
1-22 made by pharmaceutical companies; and

1-23 (3) notify each person licensed under this subtitle  
1-24 regarding the free and discounted drug information available on the  
1-25 board's Internet website.

1-26 (b) Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year,  
1-27 the board shall file with the presiding officer of each house of the  
1-28 legislature a report on:

1-29 (1) the information obtained by the board regarding  
1-30 free and discounted drug offers made by pharmaceutical companies;

1-31 (2) the information provided by the board on its  
1-32 Internet website about those offers; and

1-33 (3) recommendations for changes to the program or for  
1-34 legislation necessary to increase the success of the program.

1-35 SECTION 2. (a) As soon as practicable after the date the  
1-36 Texas State Board of Pharmacy posts the information required under  
1-37 Section 554.016, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, the  
1-38 pharmacy board shall notify the Department of State Health Services  
1-39 and the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners of the availability  
1-40 of the information on the pharmacy board's Internet website.

1-41 (b) As soon as practicable after the date the Texas State  
1-42 Board of Pharmacy posts the information required under Section  
1-43 554.016, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, the Department of  
1-44 State Health Services shall notify all city and county health  
1-45 departments, hospital districts, and other governmental health  
1-46 care providers of the free and discounted drug offer information  
1-47 available on the pharmacy board's Internet website.

1-48 (c) As soon as practicable after the date the Texas State  
1-49 Board of Pharmacy posts the information required under Section  
1-50 554.016, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, the Texas State  
1-51 Board of Medical Examiners shall notify all physicians licensed in  
1-52 this state of the free and discounted drug offer information  
1-53 available on the pharmacy board's Internet website.

1-54 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
1-55 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
1-56 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
1-57 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
1-58 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

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