

By: Watson

S.B. No. 1757

Substitute the following for S.B. No. 1757:

By: Cook

C.S.S.B. No. 1757

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the disposal of unused pharmaceuticals so that they do not enter a wastewater system.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 562.0061, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 562.0061. OTHER PRESCRIPTION INFORMATION. The board shall adopt rules specifying the information a pharmacist must provide to a consumer when dispensing a prescription to the consumer for self-administration. The information must ~~be~~:

- (1) be written in plain language;
- (2) be relevant to the prescription; ~~and~~
- (3) be printed in an easily readable font size; and
- (4) include the statement, "Do not flush unused medications or pour down a sink or drain."

SECTION 2. (a) In this section, "commission" means the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

(b) The commission shall study and make recommendations regarding the methods to be used by consumers, health care providers, and others for disposing of unused pharmaceuticals so that they do not enter a wastewater system. In conducting the study, the commission shall consider:

- (1) the methods currently used in this state by consumers, health care providers, and others for that purpose;

1 (2) alternative methods used for that purpose,
2 including the methods used in other states; and

3 (3) the effects on public health and the environment
4 of the various methods used for that purpose.

5 (c) In conducting the study, the commission may solicit
6 input from:

7 (1) the Health and Human Services Commission;

8 (2) the Department of Public Safety of the State of
9 Texas;

10 (3) pharmaceutical manufacturers;

11 (4) pharmacies;

12 (5) health care providers, including home health care
13 providers;

14 (6) hospitals;

15 (7) clinics;

16 (8) long-term care facilities;

17 (9) entities that engage in medical waste processing
18 and handling;

19 (10) solid waste management service providers;

20 (11) local governments;

21 (12) ranchers and farmers;

22 (13) end users of medication;

23 (14) water utilities and other water suppliers;

24 (15) the United States Postal Service;

25 (16) the United States Environmental Protection
26 Agency; and

27 (17) any other entity the commission considers

1 necessary.

2 (d) Not later than December 1, 2010, the commission shall
3 submit a report of the results of the study to the legislature. The
4 report must include:

5 (1) the commission's recommendations regarding the
6 methods to be used by consumers, health care providers, and others
7 for disposing of unused pharmaceuticals so that they do not enter a
8 wastewater system; and

9 (2) an analysis of the feasibility of implementing the
10 recommended disposal methods on a statewide basis.

11 (e) This section expires January 1, 2011.

12 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.