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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| S.B. 420 |
| By: Buckingham |
| Public Health |
| Committee Report (Unamended) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**  There are concerns that requiring pharmacists to check the prescription monitoring program prior to providing a refill of opioids, benzodiazepines, barbiturates, or carisoprodol adds an administrative burden on pharmacists and can cause delays for consumers. It has been pointed out that this requirement has a limited benefit to public safety since the most widely abused prescription drugs are not eligible for refills. S.B. 420 seeks to address these concerns by excepting a dispenser from the requirement to check the prescription monitoring program when refilling a prescription for these drugs. |
| **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision. |
| **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution. |
| **ANALYSIS**  S.B. 420 amends the Health and Safety Code to except a dispenser from the requirement to access official prescription information before prescribing or dispensing opioids, benzodiazepines, barbiturates, or carisoprodol if the dispenser is refilling a prescription. |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE**  September 1, 2019. |