

By: Buckingham  
(Allison)

S.B. No. 683

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the licensing and regulation of pharmacists and  
pharmacies.

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

SECTION 1. Section 481.075(i), Health and Safety Code, is  
amended to read as follows:

(i) Each dispensing pharmacist shall:

(1) fill in on the official prescription form or note  
in the electronic prescription record each item of information  
given orally to the dispensing pharmacy under Subsection (h) and  
the date the prescription is filled, and:

(A) for a written prescription, fill in the  
dispensing pharmacist's signature; or

(B) for an electronic prescription,  
appropriately record the identity of the dispensing pharmacist in  
the electronic prescription record;

(2) retain with the records of the pharmacy for at  
least two years:

(A) the official prescription form or the  
electronic prescription record, as applicable; and

(B) the name or other patient identification  
required by Section 481.074(m) or (n); ~~and~~

(3) send all required information, including any  
information required to complete an official prescription form or

1 electronic prescription record, to the board by electronic transfer  
2 or another form approved by the board not later than the next  
3 business day after the date the prescription is completely filled;  
4 and

5 (4) if the pharmacy does not dispense any controlled  
6 substance prescriptions during a period of seven consecutive days,  
7 send a report to the board indicating that the pharmacy did not  
8 dispense any controlled substance prescriptions during that  
9 period, unless the pharmacy has obtained a waiver or permission to  
10 delay reporting to the board.

11 SECTION 2. Sections 481.076(a) and (k), Health and Safety  
12 Code, are amended to read as follows:

13 (a) The board may not permit any person to have access to  
14 information submitted to the board under Section 481.074(q) or  
15 481.075 except:

16 (1) the board, the Texas Medical Board, the Texas  
17 Department of Licensing and Regulation, with respect to the  
18 regulation of podiatrists [~~State Board of Podiatric Medical~~  
19 ~~Examiners~~], the State Board of Dental Examiners, the State Board of  
20 Veterinary Medical Examiners, the Texas Board of Nursing, or the  
21 Texas Optometry Board for the purpose of:

22 (A) investigating a specific license holder; or  
23 (B) monitoring for potentially harmful  
24 prescribing or dispensing patterns or practices under Section  
25 481.0762;

26 (2) an authorized officer or member of the department  
27 or authorized employee of the board engaged in the administration,

1 investigation, or enforcement of this chapter or another law  
2 governing illicit drugs in this state or another state;

3 (3) the department on behalf of a law enforcement or  
4 prosecutorial official engaged in the administration,  
5 investigation, or enforcement of this chapter or another law  
6 governing illicit drugs in this state or another state;

7 (4) a medical examiner conducting an investigation;

8 (5) provided that accessing the information is  
9 authorized under the Health Insurance Portability and  
10 Accountability Act of 1996 (Pub. L. No. 104-191) and regulations  
11 adopted under that Act:

12 (A) a pharmacist or a pharmacist-intern,  
13 pharmacy technician, or pharmacy technician trainee, as defined by  
14 Section 551.003, Occupations Code, acting at the direction of a  
15 pharmacist, who is inquiring about a recent Schedule II, III, IV, or  
16 V prescription history of a particular patient of the pharmacist;  
17 or

18 (B) a practitioner who:

19 (i) is a physician, dentist, veterinarian,  
20 podiatrist, optometrist, or advanced practice nurse or is a  
21 physician assistant described by Section 481.002(39)(D) or an  
22 employee or other agent of a practitioner acting at the direction of  
23 a practitioner; and

24 (ii) is inquiring about a recent Schedule  
25 II, III, IV, or V prescription history of a particular patient of  
26 the practitioner;

27 (6) a pharmacist or practitioner who is inquiring

1 about the person's own dispensing or prescribing activity or a  
2 practitioner who is inquiring about the prescribing activity of an  
3 individual to whom the practitioner has delegated prescribing  
4 authority; or

5 (7) one or more states or an association of states with  
6 which the board has an interoperability agreement, as provided by  
7 Subsection (j).

8 (k) A person authorized to access information under  
9 Subsection (a)(4) or (5) who is registered with the board for  
10 electronic access to the information is entitled to directly access  
11 the information available from other states pursuant to an  
12 interoperability agreement described by Subsection (j).

13 SECTION 3. Section 481.0766(a), Health and Safety Code, is  
14 amended to read as follows:

15 (a) A wholesale distributor shall report to the board the  
16 distribution of all Schedules II, III, IV, and V controlled  
17 substances [~~information that the distributor is required to report~~  
18 ~~to the Automation of Reports and Consolidated Orders System (ARCOS)~~  
19 ~~of the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration for the distribution~~  
20 ~~of a controlled substance~~] by the distributor to a person in this  
21 state. The distributor shall report the information to the board in  
22 the same format and with the same frequency as the information is  
23 reported to the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration [ARCOS].

24 SECTION 4. Section 481.353(a), Health and Safety Code, is  
25 amended to read as follows:

26 (a) The work group shall meet when necessary as determined  
27 by the board [~~at least quarterly~~].

1 SECTION 5. Section 560.051(f), Occupations Code, is amended  
2 to read as follows:

3 (f) A Class E pharmacy license or nonresident pharmacy  
4 license may be issued to a pharmacy located in another state whose  
5 primary business is to:

6 (1) (1) [~~(A)~~] dispense a prescription drug or device under  
7 a prescription drug order [~~(A)~~] and

8 [~~(B)~~] deliver the drug or device to a patient,  
9 including a patient in this state, by United States mail, common  
10 carrier, or delivery service;

11 (2) process a prescription drug order for a patient,  
12 including a patient in this state; or

13 (3) perform another pharmaceutical service, as  
14 defined by board rule.

15 SECTION 6. The following provisions of the Occupations Code  
16 are repealed:

17 (1) Sections 554.016, 556.0555, 560.001(c), 560.0525,  
18 561.003(f), 562.101(f-1), and 562.111; and

19 (2) Subchapter E, Chapter 562.

20 SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.