LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 179

Final Reading

Introduced by Krist, 10.

Read first time January 07, 2011

Committee: Health and Human Services

A BILL

FOR AN ACT relating to pharmacy; to amend sections 38-2851 and 38-2854, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 28-414, 38-2801, and 38-2802, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010; to change prescribing provisions under the Uniform Controlled Substances Act; to define a term; to change provisions relating to licensure and pharmacist interns as prescribed; to harmonize provisions; and to repeal the original sections.

Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 28-414, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

28-414 (1)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection or section 28-412 or when administered directly by a practitioner to an ultimate user, a controlled substance listed in Schedule II of section 28-405 shall not be dispensed without the written prescription bearing the signature of a practitioner authorized to prescribe. No prescription for a controlled substance listed in Schedule II of section 28-405 shall be filled more than six months from the date of issuance. A prescription for a controlled substance listed in Schedule II of section 28-405 shall not be refilled.

(b) In emergency situations as defined by rule and regulation of the department, a controlled substance listed in Schedule II of section 28-405 may be dispensed pursuant to a facsimile of a written, signed prescription bearing the word "emergency" or pursuant to an oral prescription reduced to writing in accordance with subdivision (3)(b) of this section, except for the prescribing practitioner's signature, and bearing the word "emergency".

(c) In nonemergency situations:

(i) A controlled substance listed in Schedule II of section 28-405 may be dispensed pursuant to a facsimile of a written, signed prescription if the original written, signed prescription is presented to the pharmacist for review before the controlled

substance is dispensed, except as provided in subdivision (1)(c)(ii) or (1)(c)(iii) of this section;

(ii) A narcotic drug listed in Schedule II of section 28-405 may be dispensed pursuant to a facsimile of a written, signed prescription (A) to be compounded for direct parenteral administration to a patient for the purpose of home infusion therapy or (B) for administration to a patient enrolled in a hospice care program and bearing the words "hospice patient";

(iii) A controlled substance listed in Schedule II of section 28-405 may be dispensed pursuant to a facsimile of a written, signed prescription for administration to a resident of a long-term care facility; and

(iv) For purposes of subdivisions (1)(c)(ii) and (1)(c)(iii) of this section, a facsimile of a written, signed prescription shall serve as the original written prescription and shall be maintained in accordance with subdivision (3)(a) of this section.

(d)(i) A prescription for a controlled substance listed in Schedule II of section 28-405 may be partially filled if the pharmacist does not supply the full quantity prescribed and he or she makes a notation of the quantity supplied on the face of the prescription. The remaining portion of the prescription may be filled within seventy-two hours of the first partial filling. The pharmacist shall notify the prescribing practitioner if the remaining portion of the prescription is not or cannot be filled within such period. No further quantity may be supplied after such period without a new

written, signed prescription.

(ii) A prescription for a controlled substance listed in Schedule II of section 28-405 written for a patient in a long-term care facility or for a patient with a medical diagnosis documenting a terminal illness may be partially filled. Such prescription shall bear the words "terminally ill" or "long-term care facility patient" on its face. If there is any question whether a patient may be classified as having a terminal illness, the pharmacist shall contact the prescribing practitioner prior to partially filling the prescription. Both the pharmacist and the prescribing practitioner have a corresponding responsibility to assure that the controlled substance is for a terminally ill patient. For each partial filling, the dispensing pharmacist shall record on the back of the prescription or on another appropriate record, uniformly maintained and readily retrievable, the date of the partial filling, quantity dispensed, remaining quantity authorized to be dispensed, and the identification of the dispensing pharmacist. The total quantity of controlled substances listed in Schedule II which is dispensed in all partial fillings shall not exceed the total quantity prescribed. A prescription for a Schedule II controlled substance for a patient in a long-term care facility or a patient with a medical diagnosis documenting a terminal illness is valid for sixty days from the date of issuance or until discontinuance of the prescription, whichever occurs first.

(2)(a) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection or

when administered directly by a practitioner to an ultimate user, a controlled substance listed in Schedule III, IV, or V of section 28-405 shall not be dispensed without a written or oral medical order. Such medical order is valid for six months after the date of issuance. Authorization from a practitioner authorized to prescribe is required to refill a prescription for a controlled substance listed in Schedule III, IV, or V of section 28-405. Such prescriptions shall not be refilled more than five times within six months after the date of issuance. Original prescription information for any controlled substance listed in Schedule III, IV, or V of section 28-405 may be transferred between pharmacies for purposes of refill dispensing pursuant to section 38-2871.

(b) A controlled substance listed in Schedule III, IV, or V of section 28-405 may be dispensed pursuant to a facsimile of a written, signed prescription. The facsimile of a written, signed prescription shall serve as the original written prescription for purposes of this subsection and shall be maintained in accordance with the provisions of subdivision (3)(c) of this section.

(c) A prescription for a controlled substance listed in Schedule III, IV, or V of section 28-405 may be partially filled if (i) each partial filling is recorded in the same manner as a refilling, (ii) the total quantity dispensed in all partial fillings does not exceed the total quantity prescribed, and (iii) each partial filling is dispensed within six months after the prescription was issued.

(3)(a) Prescriptions for all controlled substances listed in Schedule II of section 28-405 shall be kept in a separate file by the dispensing practitioner and shall be maintained for a minimum of five years. The practitioner shall make all such files readily available to the department and law enforcement for inspection without a search warrant.

(b) All prescriptions for controlled substances listed in Schedule II of section 28-405 shall contain the name and address of the patient, the name and address of the prescribing practitioner, the Drug Enforcement Administration number of the prescribing practitioner, the date of issuance, and the prescribing practitioner's signature. ~~The practitioner filling such prescription shall write the date of filling and his or her own signature on the face of the prescription.~~ If the prescription is for an animal, it shall also state the name and address of the owner of the animal and the species of the animal.

(c) Prescriptions for all controlled substances listed in Schedule III, IV, or V of section 28-405 shall be maintained either separately from other prescriptions or in a form in which the information required is readily retrievable from ordinary business records of the dispensing practitioner and shall be maintained for a minimum of five years. The practitioner shall make all such records readily available to the department and law enforcement for inspection without a search warrant.

(d) All prescriptions for controlled substances listed in

Schedule III, IV, or V of section 28-405 shall contain the name and address of the patient, the name and address of the prescribing practitioner, the Drug Enforcement Administration number of the prescribing practitioner, the date of issuance, and for written prescriptions, the prescribing practitioner's signature. If the prescription is for an animal, it shall also state the owner's name and address and species of the animal.

(e) A registrant who is the owner of a controlled substance may transfer:

(i) Any controlled substance listed in Schedule I or II of section 28-405 to another registrant as provided by law or by rule and regulation of the department; and

(ii) Any controlled substance listed in Schedule III, IV, or V of section 28-405 to another registrant if such owner complies with subsection (4) of section 28-411.

(f)(i) The owner of any stock of controlled substances may cause such controlled substances to be destroyed pursuant to this subdivision when the need for such substances ceases. Complete records of controlled substances destruction pursuant to this subdivision shall be maintained by the registrant for five years from the date of destruction.

(ii) When the owner is a registrant:

(A) Controlled substances listed in Schedule II, III, IV, or V of section 28-405 may be destroyed by a pharmacy inspector, by a reverse distributor, or by the federal Drug Enforcement

Administration. Upon destruction, any forms required by the administration to document such destruction shall be completed;

(B) Liquid controlled substances in opened containers which originally contained fifty milliliters or less or compounded liquid controlled substances within the facility where they were compounded may be destroyed if witnessed by two individuals credentialed under the Uniform Credentialing Act and designated by the facility and recorded in accordance with subsection (4) of section 28-411; or

(C) Solid controlled substances in opened unit-dose containers or which have been adulterated within a hospital where they were to be administered to patients at such hospital may be destroyed if witnessed by two individuals credentialed under the Uniform Credentialing Act and designated by the hospital and recorded in accordance with subsection (4) of section 28-411.

(iii) When the owner is a patient, such owner may transfer the controlled substances to a pharmacy for immediate destruction by two individuals credentialed under the Uniform Credentialing Act and designated by the pharmacy.

(iv) When the owner is a resident of a long-term care facility or hospital, a controlled substance listed in Schedule II, III, IV, or V of section 28-405 shall be destroyed by two individuals credentialed under the Uniform Credentialing Act and designated by the facility or hospital.

(g) Before dispensing any controlled substance listed in

Schedule II, III, IV, or V of section 28-405, the dispensing practitioner shall affix a label to the container in which the controlled substance is dispensed. Such label shall bear the name and address of the pharmacy or dispensing practitioner, the name of the patient, the date of filling, the consecutive number of the prescription under which it is recorded in the practitioner's prescription records, the name of the prescribing practitioner, and the directions for use of the controlled substance. Unless the prescribing practitioner writes "do not label" or words of similar import on the original written prescription or so designates in an oral prescription, such label shall also bear the name of the controlled substance.

Sec. 2. Section 38-2801, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

38-2801 Sections 38-2801 to 38-28,103 and section 4 of this act shall be known and may be cited as the Pharmacy Practice Act.

Sec. 3. Section 38-2802, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, is amended to read:

38-2802 For purposes of the Pharmacy Practice Act and elsewhere in the Uniform Credentialing Act, unless the context otherwise requires, the definitions found in sections 38-2803 to 38-2848 and section 4 of this act apply.

Sec. 4. Drug sample or sample medication means a unit of a prescription drug that is not intended to be sold and is intended

to promote the sale of the drug. Each sample unit shall bear a label that clearly denotes its status as a drug sample, which may include, but need not be limited to, the words sample, not for sale, or professional courtesy package.

Sec. 5. Section 38-2851, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

38-2851 ~~(1) Every applicant for examination and licensure as a pharmacist shall be a graduate of an accredited pharmacy program, except that an applicant who is a graduate of a pharmacy program located outside of the United States and which is not accredited shall be deemed to have satisfied the requirement of being a graduate of an accredited pharmacy program upon providing evidence satisfactory to the department, with the recommendation of the board, of graduation from such foreign pharmacy program and upon successfully passing an equivalency examination approved by the board.~~

~~(2) Every applicant shall (a) file proof of sufficient internship experience in pharmacy, under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist, as may be required by the department, with the recommendation of the board, which shall comply with national requirements for internship as set forth by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, (b) have satisfactorily completed at least five years of college of which at least three years shall have been in an accredited pharmacy program, (c) pass an examination approved by the board, and (d) present proof satisfactory to the department,~~

~~with the recommendation of the board, that he or she (i) has passed an examination approved by the board within the last three years, (ii) has been in the active practice of the profession of pharmacy in another state, territory, or the District of Columbia for one year within the three years immediately preceding the application for licensure, (iii) has become board-certified in a specialty recognized by the Board of Pharmaceutical Specialties within the seven years immediately preceding the application for licensure, or (iv) has completed continuing competency in pharmacy that is approved by the Board of Pharmacy.~~

(1) To be eligible to take the pharmacist licensure examination, every applicant must present proof of graduation from an accredited pharmacy program. A graduate of a pharmacy program located outside of the United States and which is not accredited shall be deemed to have satisfied the requirement of being a graduate of an accredited pharmacy program upon providing evidence satisfactory to the department, with the recommendation of the board, of graduation from such foreign pharmacy program and upon successfully passing an equivalency examination approved by the board.

(2) Every applicant for licensure as a pharmacist shall (a) pass a pharmacist licensure examination approved by the board, (b) have graduated from a pharmacy program pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, and (c) present proof satisfactory to the department, with the recommendation of the board, that he or she has met one of the following requirements to demonstrate his or her

current competency: (i) Within the last three years, has passed a pharmacist licensure examination approved by the board; (ii) has been in the active practice of the profession of pharmacy in another state, territory, or the District of Columbia for at least one year within the three years immediately preceding the application for licensure; (iii) has become board certified in a specialty recognized by the Board of Pharmacy Specialties or its successor within the seven years immediately preceding the application for licensure; (iv) is duly licensed as a pharmacist in some other state, territory, or the District of Columbia in which, under like conditions, licensure as a pharmacist is granted in this state; or (v) has completed continuing competency in pharmacy that is approved by the Board of Pharmacy.

(3) Proof of the qualifications for licensure prescribed in this section shall be made to the satisfaction of the department, with the recommendation of the board. Graduation from ~~, substantiated by proper affidavits. In all cases the actual time of attendance in~~ an accredited pharmacy program shall be certified by the appropriate school, college, or university authority by the issuance of the degree granted to a graduate of such school, college, or university. ~~Service and experience in pharmacy under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist, as required in this section, shall be predominantly related to the practice of pharmacy and shall include the keeping of records and the making of reports required under state and federal statutes. The department, with the recommendation of the~~

~~board, shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations as may be required to establish standards for internship which shall comply with national requirements to effect reciprocity with other states which have similar requirements for licensure.~~

Sec. 6. Section 38-2854, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

38-2854 (1) A pharmacist intern shall be (a) a student currently enrolled in an accredited pharmacy program, (b) a graduate of an accredited pharmacy program serving his or her internship, or (c) a graduate of a pharmacy program located outside the United States which is not accredited and who has successfully passed equivalency examinations approved by the board. Intern registration based on enrollment in or graduation from an accredited pharmacy program shall expire not later than fifteen months after the date of graduation or at the time of professional licensure, whichever comes first. Intern registration based on graduation from a pharmacy program located outside of the United States which is not accredited shall expire not later than fifteen months after the date of issuance of the registration or at the time of professional licensure, whichever comes first.

(2) A pharmacist intern may compound and dispense drugs or devices and fill prescriptions only in the presence of and under the immediate personal supervision of a licensed pharmacist. Such licensed pharmacist shall either be (a) the person to whom the pharmacy license is issued or a person in the actual employ of the

pharmacy licensee or (b) the delegating pharmacist designated in a delegated dispensing agreement by a hospital with a delegated dispensing permit.

(3) Performance as a pharmacist intern under the supervision of a licensed pharmacist shall be predominantly related to the practice of pharmacy and shall include the keeping of records and the making of reports required under state and federal statutes. The department, with the recommendation of the board, shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations as may be required to establish standards for internship.

Sec. 7. Original sections 38-2851 and 38-2854, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and sections 28-414, 38-2801, and 38-2802, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2010, are repealed.