

ONE HUNDRED SIXTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2019
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB74

Hearing Date: Wednesday January 23, 2019
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Williams
One Liner: Provide for validation by certified pharmacy technicians

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:

Aye: 7 Senators Arch, Cavanaugh, Hansen, B., Howard, Murman, Walz, Williams
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Oral Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Matt Williams
Lori Murante
Tiffany Goeller

Representing:

Introducer
Nebraska Pharmacists Association; Nebraska Medicine
Nebraska Pharmacists Association; Bryan Health

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 74 amends the statutes relating to supervision of pharmacy technicians by pharmacists.

Currently, a pharmacist who is supervising a pharmacy technician is the only person who can verify the authorized activities or functions of the technician they are supervising. LB 74 would allow supervising pharmacists to utilize a peer validation system to help them supervise. Under Sec. 3, one pharmacy technician could validate the work of a peer pharmacy technician if certain criteria were met, as defined in Sec. 5 of LB 74.

Under Sec. 5, the peer validation could occur only if:

- Both technicians were certified
 - Are working within a hospital
 - Are using bar code technology, radio frequency identification technology, or similar technology to validate the accuracy of medication
 - The technicians are only validating medication that is prepackaged by the manufacturer or prepackaged and verified by a pharmacist
 - The technician is acting in accordance with policies and procedures in the hospital which were established by the pharmacist in charge.
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Explanation of amendments:

Section 5(1) of LB 74 allows a pharmacy technician to validate the "tasks and functions" of another pharmacy technician. AM 91 changes Sec. 5(1) to add "acts," as well as tasks and functions, to those actions that may be validated by a peer pharmacy technician.

Section 5 also lists the conditions under which peer validation is allowed. AM 91 strikes Sec. 5(1)(b) which requires that the pharmacy technicians work in a hospital and replaces it with more specific language that requires "Both certified pharmacy technicians are working within the confines of a hospital preparing medications for administration in the hospital."

Sara Howard, Chairperson