

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH LEGISLATURE  
SECOND SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 592**

FINAL READING

Introduced by Stinner, 48.

Read first time January 20, 2021

Committee: Health and Human Services

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to the Automated Medication Systems Act; to
- 2 amend sections 71-2449 and 71-2451, Reissue Revised Statutes of
- 3 Nebraska; to provide for use of automated medication distribution
- 4 machines as prescribed; to change provisions relating to emergency
- 5 doses and prescription requirements; and to repeal the original
- 6 sections.
- 7 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Section 71-2449, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
2 amended to read:

3 71-2449 (1) An automated medication distribution machine:

4 (a) Is subject to the requirements of section 71-2447 and, if it is  
5 in a long-term care automated pharmacy, is subject to section 71-2451;  
6 and

7 (b) Subject to section 71-2451, may ~~May~~ be operated or used in a  
8 hospital, ~~or~~ long-term care facility, or assisted-living facility for  
9 medication administration pursuant to a chart order or prescription by a  
10 licensed health care professional.

11 (2) Drugs placed in an automated medication distribution machine  
12 shall be in the manufacturer's original packaging or in containers  
13 repackaged in compliance with state and federal laws, rules, and  
14 regulations relating to repackaging, labeling, and record keeping.

15 (3) The inventory which is transferred to an automated medication  
16 distribution machine in a hospital shall be excluded from the percent of  
17 total prescription drug sales revenue described in section 71-7454.

18 Sec. 2. Section 71-2451, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
19 amended to read:

20 71-2451 (1) In order for an automated medication system to be  
21 operated in a long-term care facility, a pharmacist in charge of a  
22 pharmacy licensed under the Health Care Facility Licensure Act and  
23 located in Nebraska shall annually license the long-term care automated  
24 pharmacy in which the automated medication system is located.

25 (2) The pharmacist in charge of a licensed pharmacy shall submit an  
26 application for licensure or renewal of licensure to the Division of  
27 Public Health of the Department of Health and Human Services with a fee  
28 in the amount of the fee the pharmacy pays for licensure or renewal. The  
29 application shall include:

30 (a) The name and location of the licensed pharmacy;

31 (b) If controlled substances are stored in the automated medication

1 system, the federal Drug Enforcement Administration registration number  
2 of the licensed pharmacy. After the long-term care automated pharmacy is  
3 registered with the federal Drug Enforcement Administration, the  
4 pharmacist in charge of the licensed pharmacy shall provide the federal  
5 Drug Enforcement Administration registration number of the long-term care  
6 automated pharmacy to the division and any application for renewal shall  
7 include such registration number;

8 (c) The location of the long-term care automated pharmacy; and

9 (d) The name of the pharmacist in charge of the licensed pharmacy.

10 (3) As part of the application process, the division shall conduct  
11 an inspection by a pharmacy inspector as provided in section 38-28,101 of  
12 the long-term care automated pharmacy. The division shall also conduct  
13 inspections of the operation of the long-term care automated pharmacy as  
14 necessary.

15 (4) The division shall license a long-term care automated pharmacy  
16 which meets the licensure requirements of the Automated Medication  
17 Systems Act.

18 (5) A pharmacist in charge of a licensed pharmacy shall apply for a  
19 separate license for each location at which it operates one or more long-  
20 term care automated pharmacies. The licensed pharmacy shall be the  
21 provider pharmacy for the long-term care automated pharmacy.

22 (6) The pharmacist in charge of the licensed pharmacy operating a  
23 long-term care automated pharmacy shall:

24 (a) Identify a pharmacist responsible for the operation,  
25 supervision, policies, and procedures of the long-term care automated  
26 pharmacy;

27 (b) Implement the policies and procedures developed to comply with  
28 section 71-2447;

29 (c) Assure compliance with the drug storage and record-keeping  
30 requirements of the Pharmacy Practice Act;

31 (d) Assure compliance with the labeling requirements of subsection

1 (8) of this section;

2 (e) Develop and implement policies for the verification of drugs by  
3 a pharmacist prior to being loaded into the automated medication system  
4 or for the verification of drugs by a pharmacist prior to being released  
5 for administration to a resident;

6 (f) Develop and implement policies for inventory, security, and  
7 accountability for controlled substances; and

8 (g) Assure that each medical order is reviewed by a pharmacist prior  
9 to the release of the drugs by the automated medication system. Emergency  
10 doses may be taken from an automated medication system prior to review by  
11 a pharmacist if the licensed pharmacy develops and implements policies  
12 for emergency doses. Emergency doses may not be taken from an automated  
13 medication system prior to review by a pharmacist for residents of an  
14 assisted-living facility co-located with a long-term care facility.

15 (7) Supervision by a pharmacist is sufficient for compliance with  
16 the requirement of subdivision (6)(a) of this section if the pharmacist  
17 in the licensed pharmacy monitors the automated medication system  
18 electronically and keeps records of compliance with such requirement for  
19 five years.

20 (8) Each drug dispensed from a long-term care automated pharmacy  
21 shall be in a package with a label containing the following information:

22 (a) The name and address of the long-term care automated pharmacy;

23 (b) The prescription number;

24 (c) The name, strength, and dosage form of the drug;

25 (d) The name of the resident;

26 (e) The name of the practitioner who prescribed the drug;

27 (f) The date of filling; and

28 (g) Directions for use.

29 (9) A prescription is required for any controlled substance  
30 dispensed from a long-term care automated pharmacy and for any medication  
31 dispensed for a resident of an assisted-living facility co-located with a

1 long-term care facility.

2 (10) An assisted-living facility co-located with a long-term care  
3 facility which has a long-term care automated pharmacy may obtain drugs  
4 dispensed from an automated medication distribution machine by the long-  
5 term care automated pharmacy for residents of the assisted-living  
6 facility as long as the procedures of the Automated Medication Systems  
7 Act are followed with regard to dispensing the drugs.

8 (11) ~~(10)~~ The inventory which is transferred to a long-term care  
9 automated pharmacy shall be excluded from the percent of total  
10 prescription drug sales revenue described in section 71-7454.

11 Sec. 3. Original sections 71-2449 and 71-2451, Reissue Revised  
12 Statutes of Nebraska, are repealed.