

HB 1961 -- Prescriptions for Contraceptives

Sponsor: Newman

This bill requires pharmacies to fill valid and lawful prescriptions for all federal Food and Drug Administration-approved drugs or devices used to prevent pregnancy, including emergency contraceptives, without delay.

If the contraceptive or suitable alternative is not in stock, the pharmacy must obtain the contraceptive under the pharmacy's standard procedures for ordering contraceptives not in stock. If the patient prefers, the prescription must either be transferred to a local pharmacy of the patient's choice or returned to the patient.

Pharmacies have a duty to treat each customer in a non-judgmental manner and ensure that each customer is not subjected to indignity, humiliation, breaches of confidentiality, or pressure to fill or not to fill the prescription.

The State Board of Pharmacy within the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration is authorized to take disciplinary action against a licensed pharmacy that violates the provisions of the bill.

Nothing in the bill will interfere with a pharmacist's screening for potential drug therapy problems, drug-disease contraindications, or other interaction problems.