

HCS SB 717 -- PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

SPONSOR: Brown (Burlison)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 14 to 4.

This bill changes the laws regarding the licensing of specified professions.

HAIR BRAIDING

An employee or employer who primarily engages in the practice of combing, braiding, or curling hair without the use of potentially harmful chemicals must not be subject to the licensing requirements of cosmetologists or barbers under Chapter 329, RSMo, while working with any licensee for a public amusement or entertainment venue.

PRACTICE OF PHARMACY

The bill adds to the description of the term "practice of pharmacy" the administration of hepatitis A, hepatitis B, diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis vaccines by written protocol authorized by a physician.

In addition to other requirements established by the joint promulgation of rules by the Board of Pharmacy and the State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts in the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration, a pharmacist is required to administer vaccines in accordance with the treatment guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and to request a patient to remain in the pharmacy a safe amount of time after the administration to observe any adverse reactions. A pharmacist must receive additional training for the administration of vaccines as required by the Board of Pharmacy and evidenced by a certificate upon completion which must be displayed in his or her pharmacy where vaccines are delivered. Within 14 days of administering a vaccine, a pharmacist must provide specified information to the patient's primary health care provider.

FEDERALLY EMPLOYED PHARMACISTS

A legally qualified pharmacist serving in the Armed Forces of the United States or employed by the federal government who does not hold himself or herself out as a Missouri licensed pharmacist must not be required to have a Missouri pharmacist license while discharging his or her official duties.

LABELING OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS

The bill allows a pharmacist or a physician to label each prescription drug container using either a sequential number or a unique identifier.

INSPECTION OF CLASS B HOSPITAL PHARMACIES

The Department of Health and Senior Services must have sole authority and responsibility for the inspection and licensure of hospitals as specified under Chapter 197 but the Board of Pharmacy may inspect a class B pharmacy or any portion of the pharmacy that is not under the inspection authority of the department. These provisions must not be construed to bar the board from conducting an investigation pursuant to a public or governmental complaint to determine compliance by an individual licensee or registrant of the board with any applicable provisions of the chapter or the rules of the board.

The department must have authority to promulgate rules in conjunction with the board governing medication distribution and the provision of medication therapy services by a pharmacist at or within a hospital. A pharmacist providing medication therapy services must obtain a certificate of medication therapeutic plan authority as provided by rule of the board. Medication may be dispensed by a class A hospital pharmacy located in a hospital to a hospital patient for use or administration. A drug distributor license must not be required to transfer medication from a class B hospital pharmacy to a hospital clinic or facility for patient care or treatment. Medication dispensed by a class A pharmacy located in a hospital to a hospital patient for use outside of the hospital must be dispensed only by a prescription order for medication therapy from an individual physician for a specific patient.

The board must appoint an advisory committee to review and make recommendations to the board on the merit of all rules and regulations jointly promulgated by the board and the department. The membership of the committee is specified.

These provisions cannot be construed to limit the authority of a licensed health care provider to prescribe, administer, or dispense medications and treatments within the scope of his or her professional practice.

Upon application to the board, any hospital that holds a pharmacy permit or license on the effective date of these provisions must be entitled to obtain a class B pharmacy permit or license without the payment of a fee if the application is submitted to the board on or before January 1, 2015.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill allows federally employed pharmacists, mainly those who are members of the military, to practice in Missouri if they are practicing in a federal capacity.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Brown; State Board of Pharmacy; and Missouri Hospital Association.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.