

HCS SCS SB 808 -- PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

SPONSOR: Wasson (Burlison)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 23 to 0.

This bill contains provisions relating to the licensing of certain professions within the Division of Professional Registration.

HAIR BRAIDING

The bill provides that an employee or employer who primarily engages in the practice of combing, braiding, or curling hair without the use of harmful chemicals will not be subject to the licensing requirements of cosmetologists or barbers under Chapter 329 while working with a licensee for a public amusement or entertainment venue.

SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS IN PROFESSIONAL LICENSING APPLICATIONS

Under current law, every application for a renewal of a professional license, certificate, registration, or permit must contain the applicant's Social Security number. This bill states that an application for a professional license renewal only has to include a Social Security number in situations where the original application did not contain a Social Security number. After the initial application for license renewal which includes a Social Security number, an applicant is no longer required to provide a Social Security number in subsequent renewal applications.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS

The bill specifies that a physician assistant may enroll with the Department of Social Services as a Medicaid provider while billing under a supervision agreement with a physician.

CLINICAL SOCIAL WORKER

Currently, an applicant for clinical social worker or advanced macro social worker licensure must complete 3000 hours of supervised experience within 48 months. This bill specifies that an applicant who completes at least 4000 hours of supervised experience within 48 calendar months is eligible for application of licensure at 3000 hours and must be furnished a certificate by the State Committee for Social Workers acknowledging the completion of additional hours. The bill also specifies that a licensed master social worker must not practice independently the scope of practice reserved for clinical social workers or advanced macro social

workers.

PHARMACY

The bill adds to the description of the "practice of pharmacy" the administration of hepatitis A, hepatitis B, diphtheria, tetanus, and pertussis vaccines by written protocol authorized by a physician for individuals 12 years of age and older. Also, a pharmacist may administer vaccines in accordance with the treatment guidelines established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and rules jointly promulgated by the Board of Pharmacy and the State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts. A pharmacist must receive additional training for the administration of vaccines as required by the Board of Pharmacy. Within 14 days of administering a vaccine a pharmacist must provide specified information to the patient's primary health care provider.

The bill provides that a federally employed pharmacist who does not hold him or herself out as a Missouri licensed pharmacist and who is engaged in the practice of pharmacy while in the performance of official duties must not require a Missouri pharmacist license.

The bill provides that pharmacists may label prescription drugs using either a sequential number or a unique identifier.

The bill states that the Board of Pharmacy may inspect class B hospital pharmacies that are not under the inspection authority of the Department of Health and Senior Services. The Board and the Department of Health and Senior Services may jointly promulgate rules governing medication services by a pharmacist at or within a hospital. A drug distributor license is not required to transfer medication from a class B hospital pharmacy to a hospital clinic for patient care. Medication dispensed by a hospital to a hospital patient for use outside of the hospital must be dispensed only by a prescription order for medication therapy from a physician. All pharmacists providing medication therapy services must obtain a certificate of medication therapeutic plan authority as provided by rule. There must be an advisory committee, with members appointed by the Board, which will make recommendations to the Board and review all rules jointly promulgated by the Board and the Department.

The bill defines a "class B hospital pharmacy," and provides that any hospital that holds a pharmacy license on the effective date of the bill must be eligible to obtain a class B pharmacy license without the payment of a fee.

HEARING INSTRUMENT SPECIALISTS

The bill modifies the definition of "hearing instrument" or "hearing aid" by adding language to provided that a wearable instrument is one which provides more than 15 decibel full-on gain via a two cc coupler at any single frequency from 200 through 6,000 cycles per second.

In order to obtain a license as a hearing instrument specialist the applicant must successfully pass a qualifying examination.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that many states surrounding Missouri require more hours of study to practice social work. This bill allows the state to document hours so social workers can qualify for reciprocity in other states.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Wasson and the National Association for Social Work, Missouri.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.