

HB 1075 -- PHARMACY INVENTORY REQUIREMENTS

SPONSOR: Sater

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Health Care Policy by a vote of 11 to 0.

This bill prohibits a licensed pharmacy from being required to carry or maintain in inventory any specific prescription or nonprescription drug or device.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill is directed at the business practices of pharmacies and does not place a mandate on an individual pharmacist. The provisions of the bill provide a business the freedom to stock only the products they choose and does not mandate a pharmacy to maintain an inventory of any certain prescription drug, device, or product. Currently, there is no law that states a pharmacy is required to maintain any drug, device, or product in its inventory for sale. Other states have seen attempts to require pharmacies to maintain a stock of certain drugs, specifically RU-486 and the morning after pill. A pharmacy is a business that needs to make a profit and needs to have the ability to remain fiscally viable and in doing so needs the ability to have the choice to maintain an inventory of products that it determines is a need for its community and local physicians. A mandate to require certain drugs, devices, or products could actually lessen the availability of a product because the pharmacy could just choose not to keep the product in stock.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Sater; Missouri Family Network; Americans United for Life; Missouri Baptist Convention, Christian Life Community; Missouri Pharmacy Association, and Campaign Life Missouri.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that the bill could affect victims of sexual violence by limiting access to emergency contraception especially in many rural parts of the state.

Testifying against the bill was Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence.