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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO PRESCRIPTION DRUGS.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that prescribers of  
2 controlled substances, including doctors, dentists, surgeons,  
3 and podiatrists, are required to register with the state  
4 electronic prescription accountability system and are required  
5 to report information relevant to the dispensation of any  
6 controlled substance before any controlled substance may be  
7 dispensed. Prescribers are also permitted to view prescription  
8 data of their own patients. However, prescribers are currently  
9 not required to consult the state electronic prescription  
10 accountability system before prescribing a controlled substance.

11           The legislature further finds that drug overdose rates have  
12 increased catastrophically in Hawaii, increasing by eighty-three  
13 per cent from 2006 to 2014. Thirty-five per cent of all drug  
14 overdose deaths between 2010 and 2014 were caused by  
15 prescription opioids alone.

16           The purpose of this Act is to reduce the access of the  
17 public to potentially addictive substances by requiring  
18 prescribers to consult the state electronic prescription



1 accountability system before issuing a prescription for certain  
2 controlled substances.

3 SECTION 2. Chapter 329, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended by adding a new section to part III to be appropriately  
5 designated and to read as follows:

6 "§329- Prescriptions; additional restrictions. (a) The  
7 prescription restrictions in this section shall apply in  
8 addition to the restrictions described in section 329-38.

9 (b) No prescriber shall prescribe a schedule II, III, or  
10 IV controlled substance without first requesting, receiving, and  
11 considering records of the ultimate user from the state  
12 electronic prescription accountability system as needed to  
13 reduce the risk of abuse of or addiction to a controlled  
14 substance, as needed to avoid harmful drug interactions, or as  
15 otherwise medically necessary; provided that this subsection  
16 shall not apply to:

17 (1) Any prescription for a supply of three days or less  
18 that is made in an emergency situation, by an  
19 emergency medical provider, or in an emergency room;  
20 and



1           (2) Any prescription written while the state electronic  
2           prescription accountability system is nonfunctional.

3           (c) The administrator of the state electronic prescription  
4           accountability system shall promptly disclose only the requested  
5           data to the requesting prescriber or the requesting prescriber's  
6           delegate. Disclosure as required under this section is  
7           permissible under the duty of confidentiality imposed by section  
8           329-104. To the extent that this section conflicts with other  
9           state confidentiality and disclosure laws, this section shall  
10           prevail.

11           (d) A violation of this section shall not be subject to  
12           the penalty provisions of part IV of chapter 329; provided that  
13           a violation of this section may result in disciplinary action by  
14           the appropriate licensing authority."

15           SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

16           SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2018, and  
17 shall be repealed on June 30, 2023.



**Report Title:**

Electronic Prescription Accountability System; Prescription  
Drugs

**Description:**

Requires prescribers of certain controlled substances to consult the State's Electronic Prescription Accountability System before issuing a prescription for the controlled substance, under certain circumstances. Provides that a violation by a prescriber shall not be subject to criminal penalty provisions but that a violation may be grounds for professional discipline. Repeals on 6/30/2023. (CD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

