

MAR 09 2018

S.C.R. NO. 135

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE BOARD OF PHARMACY TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO REVIEW THE CURRENT SCOPE OF PRACTICE, LICENSING REQUIREMENTS, AND CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PHARMACISTS AND CONSIDER WHETHER THE SCOPE OF PRACTICE AND CORRESPONDING LICENSING REQUIREMENTS FOR PHARMACISTS SHOULD BE ENHANCED.

1 WHEREAS, there is a need for more access to health care
2 professionals, particularly registered pharmacists, who can
3 safely provide certain health care services and achieve positive
4 health outcomes for patients; and

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6 WHEREAS, pharmacists have more direct access to patients
7 than other health care professionals, which can help resolve
8 public health issues with a minimal impact to the overall health
9 system; and

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11 WHEREAS, advances in technology have changed the delivery
12 of health care over the last thirty years and as a result, the
13 definition of "practice of pharmacy" under existing law is no
14 longer accurate; and

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16 WHEREAS, pharmacy education has also increased over the
17 years, from an apprentice program to a six-year doctorate
18 program that includes education assessment training and a year
19 working as a pharmacist intern; and

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21 WHEREAS, pharmacy education now also includes immunization
22 and smoking cessation training, along with other specialty
23 training, which ensures pharmacists are well prepared to provide
24 appropriate health care services to patients; and

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26 WHEREAS, pharmacists have had a positive impact on public
27 health throughout the State and now immunize more patients than
28 any other health care professionals, which has increased the



State's immunization rate, thereby reducing disease and morbidity in the overall population; and

WHEREAS, registered pharmacists who receive proper training, working under written protocols, can:

- (1) Provide health care services, such as furnishing Naloxone and Epi-pens;
- (2) Administer immunizations and vaccines for bacterial and viral infections, such as influenza, pneumonia, and Hepatitis A;
- (3) Furnish and counsel patients on self-administered hormonal contraception and smoking cessation replacement therapy; and
- (4) Order and perform laboratory tests to determine appropriate medication use and outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the disciplines of medicine, nursing, and naturopathy are complemented by registered pharmacists, who are an essential part of a primary health care team; and

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 1950, H.D. 2, introduced during the Regular Session of 2018, proposes to amend the definition of "practice of pharmacy" to expand the scope of services and specific medications that pharmacists may furnish; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2018, the House of Representatives concurring, that the Board of Pharmacy is requested to convene a working group to review the current scope of practice, licensing requirements, and continuing education requirements for pharmacists and consider whether the scope of practice and corresponding licensing requirements for pharmacists should be enhanced; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is also requested to:



- (1) Gather information on other state laws and regulations relating to the practice of pharmacy or scope of practice of pharmacists;
- (2) Review and recommend implementation of pharmacist best practices to promote access to pharmacists who can address public health issues;
- (3) Review and recommend, if necessary, any additional education, training, or licensing requirements to address the enhancement of pharmacists' scope of practice and responsibilities; and
- (4) Clarify the definition of "furnishing" health care services or medications and "standing orders", as these terms appear in House Bill No. 1950, H.D. 2, Regular Session of 2018; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group be composed of the following members:

- (1) The Chairperson of the Board of Pharmacy;
- (2) A representative from the Communicable Disease and Public Health Nursing Division of the Department of Health;
- (3) A representative from the Hawaii Pharmacists Association;
- (4) A representative from the Daniel K. Inouye College of Pharmacy, University of Hawai'i at Hilo;
- (5) A representative from a retail/chain store pharmacy;
- (6) A representative from a community pharmacy;
- (7) A representative from a hospital pharmacy; and
- (8) A representative from the local health insurance industry; and



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the working group is requested
 2 to submit a report of its findings and recommendations,
 3 including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later
 4 than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session
 5 of 2019; and

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 7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
 8 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce
 9 and Consumer Affairs and Director of Health.

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 12 OFFERED BY:

Randy H. Bell
~~SC Keith Agnew~~


