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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WORKERS' COMPENSATION.

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

1       SECTION 1. The legislature finds that the State's existing  
2 reimbursement rates for nonprescription drugs, over-the-counter  
3 drugs, or nonlegend drugs for workers' compensation are not  
4 clearly provided. The legislature further finds that this  
5 omission has led some to charge inflated rates for these drugs,  
6 which drives up the cost of workers' compensation insurance  
7 policies.

8       Accordingly, the purpose of this Act is to prohibit health  
9 care providers from prescribing or dispensing nonprescription  
10 drugs, over-the-counter drugs, or nonlegend drugs for workers'  
11 compensation.

12       SECTION 2. Chapter 386, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
13 amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated  
14 and to read as follows:

15       "§386-       Nonprescription, over-the-counter, or nonlegend  
16 drugs; prohibition. (a) No health care provider shall



1 prescribe or dispense a nonprescription drug, over-the-counter  
2 drug, or nonlegend drug.

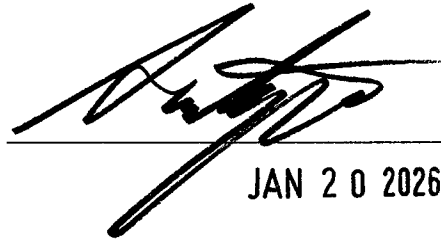
3 (b) For purposes of this section, "nonprescription drug",  
4 "over-the-counter drug", or "nonlegend drug" has the same  
5 meaning as in section 328-1."

6 SECTION 3. This Act does not affect rights and duties that  
7 matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that were  
8 begun before its effective date.

9 SECTION 4. New statutory material is underscored.

10 SECTION 5. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.

11  
INTRODUCED BY:

  
JAN 20 2026

# H.B. NO. 1648

**Report Title:**

Workers' Compensation; Nonprescription Drugs; Over-The-Counter Drugs; Nonlegend Drugs; Prescription or Dispensing Prohibited

**Description:**

Prohibits health care providers from prescribing or dispensing nonprescription drugs, over-the-counter drugs, and nonlegend drugs for workers' compensation patients.

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

