
SENATE BILL 5459

State of Washington 63rd Legislature 2013 Regular Session

By Senators Becker, Keiser, Parlette, Dammeier, and Kline

Read first time 01/31/13. Referred to Committee on Health Care .

1 AN ACT Relating to requiring ninety-day supply limits on certain
2 drugs dispensed by a pharmacist; and adding a new section to chapter
3 18.64 RCW.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 18.64 RCW
6 to read as follows:

7 (1) A pharmacist may dispense not more than a ninety-day supply of
8 a drug other than a controlled substance pursuant to a valid
9 prescription that specifies an initial quantity of less than a
10 ninety-day supply followed by periodic refills of that amount if all of
11 the following requirements are satisfied:

12 (a) The patient has completed an initial thirty-day supply of the
13 drug. However, if the prescription continues the same medication as
14 previously dispensed in a ninety-day supply, the initial thirty-day
15 supply under this subsection (1) is not required;

16 (b) The total quantity of dosage units dispensed does not exceed
17 the total quantity of dosage units authorized by the prescriber on the
18 prescription including refills;

1 (c) The prescriber has not specified on the prescription that
2 dispensing the prescription in an initial amount followed by periodic
3 refills is medically necessary; and

4 (d) The pharmacist is exercising his or her professional judgment.

5 (2) In no case may a pharmacist dispense a greater supply of a drug
6 pursuant to this section if the prescriber personally indicates, either
7 orally or in their own handwriting, "no change to quantity," or words
8 of similar meaning. Nothing in this section prohibits a prescriber
9 from checking a box on a prescription marked "no change to quantity,"
10 provided that the prescriber personally initials the box or checkmark.

11 (3) Nothing in this section may be construed to require a health
12 care service plan, health insurer, workers' compensation insurance
13 plan, pharmacy benefit manager, or any other person or entity
14 including, but not limited to, a state program or state employer, to
15 provide coverage for a drug in a manner inconsistent with the
16 beneficiary's plan benefit.

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