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HOUSE BILL 1339

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State of Washington

65th Legislature

2017 Regular Session

By Representatives Cody, Harris, Jenkins, Johnson, Kagi, Lovick, Ormsby, and Slatter

Read first time 01/18/17. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to restrictions on prescriptions for opioid  
2 drugs; and adding a new section to chapter 69.41 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 69.41  
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, when  
7 issuing a prescription for an opioid drug to a patient for the first  
8 time for outpatient use:

9 (a) A practitioner may not issue a prescription for more than a  
10 seven-day supply; and

11 (b) A dentist licensed under chapter 18.32 RCW may not issue a  
12 prescription for more than a three-day supply.

13 (2) If, in the professional medical judgment of a practitioner,  
14 more than a seven-day supply of an opioid drug is required to treat a  
15 patient's acute medical condition, as determined by the practitioner,  
16 or is necessary for the treatment of chronic pain, the treatment of  
17 pain associated with a cancer diagnoses, or for palliative care, then  
18 the practitioner may issue a prescription for the quantity needed to  
19 treat the acute medical condition, chronic pain, pain associated with  
20 a cancer diagnosis, or pain experienced while the patient is in  
21 palliative care. The condition triggering the prescription of an

1 opioid drug for more than a seven-day supply must be documented in  
2 the patient's medical record, and the practitioner shall indicate  
3 that an alternative to the opioid drug was not appropriate to address  
4 the medical condition.

5 (3) For purposes of this section:

6 (a) "Opioid drug" has the same meaning as "opiate" in RCW  
7 69.50.101. It does not include opioid overdose medications or  
8 medications approved by the federal food and drug administration for  
9 the treatment of opioid use disorder.

10 (b) "Practitioner" means a health care practitioner, other than a  
11 dentist licensed under chapter 18.32 RCW, who is authorized to  
12 prescribe opioid drugs.

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