
HOUSE BILL 2752

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Representative G. Cole

Read first time 01/21/94. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to the board of pharmacy; and adding new sections
2 to chapter 18.64 RCW.

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

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that significant
5 errors continue to occur in our state's hospitals as well as in
6 physician's and dentist's offices with the use of medications packaged
7 in ampules, vials, or prefilled syringes. These errors pose serious
8 health hazards to the public and subject manufacturers, dispensers, and
9 prescribers of legend drugs to potential legal liability. These
10 misidentification errors result in large part as a consequence of human
11 error in failing to adequately distinguish between and among the
12 multitude of options available because of the lack of consistent and
13 systematic markings and colorings on the container.

14 In order to minimize the occurrence of these errors, the
15 legislature declares the need for adopting a rational identification
16 and labeling system for all legend drugs that are furnished in ampules,
17 vials, and prefilled syringes.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** By June 30, 1995, the board of pharmacy is
2 directed to develop and adopt by rule requirements for an
3 identification and labeling system for all legend drugs that are
4 furnished in ampules, vials, and prefilled syringes. The board shall
5 consider the standards and recommendations of the American society for
6 testing and materials, and consult with appropriate federal and state
7 agencies, and professional and pharmaceutical associations in the
8 development of the rules.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The rules shall not be in full force and
10 effect until January 1, 1997, unless the board makes a finding that an
11 identification and labeling system that is substantively equivalent to
12 that established by the rules of the board has been adopted by the
13 federal food and drug administration or other competent federal
14 authority before the effective date of the rules.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The board shall consider in the
16 identification system the necessity for the imprinting of the trade or
17 generic name of the legend drug that is recognizable under appropriate
18 lighting conditions; the color coding of tips of ampules, the caps of
19 vials, as well as the labels of prefilled syringes to enhance rapid and
20 accurate identity; and warnings for the dilution of legend drugs prior
21 to use, as well as other requirements the board finds necessary to
22 protect the public health.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Sections 1 through 4 of this act are each
24 added to chapter 18.64 RCW.

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