
SENATE BILL 6393

State of Washington

53rd Legislature

1994 Regular Session

By Senators McAuliffe, Erwin, Prentice, M. Rasmussen and Oke

Read first time 01/21/94. Referred to Committee on Health & Human Services.

1 AN ACT Relating to prescription drug abuse; adding a new section to
2 chapter 18.22 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 18.32 RCW; adding a
3 new section to chapter 18.57 RCW; adding a new section to chapter
4 18.57A RCW; adding a new section to chapter 18.64 RCW; adding a new
5 section to chapter 18.71 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 18.71A
6 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 18.88 RCW; adding a new section to
7 chapter 18.92 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.21 RCW; adding a
8 new section to chapter 48.44 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 48.46
9 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 43.72 RCW; adding a new section to
10 chapter 10.05 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 18.130 RCW; and
11 creating new sections.

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

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** Although illegal drug use continues to be a
14 major social, public health, and criminal justice problem, the abuse
15 and diversion of prescription drugs is also of growing concern. Costs
16 to the health care system, as well as the loss to society in human
17 dysfunction, misery, and lack of productivity cause prescription drug
18 abuse to be a public policy concern in Washington state.

1 The legislature finds that an estimated four percent of hospital
2 emergency room visits are probably prescription drug-seeking behavior,
3 cost in millions of dollars per year, and straining an already-burdened
4 health care delivery system. The illegal diversion and resale of
5 prescription drugs on the street adds to drug abuse control problems
6 for law enforcement and the health care system. Better education of
7 prescribing health care professionals, pharmacists, and the public
8 about the recognition and treatment of prescription drug abuse may help
9 control the problem.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 18.22 RCW
11 to read as follows:

12 PODIATRIC PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS. Persons licensed under this
13 chapter shall complete continuing education on prescriptive drug
14 diversion and abuse prevention, including clinical methodology for
15 identification of at risk patients. The secretary shall adopt rules
16 under RCW 18.22.191 for minimum standards for the continuing education
17 curriculum and shall by rule set the number of hours of continuing
18 education required by a licensee. A person renewing a license under
19 RCW 18.22.120 shall present proof of compliance with the requirements
20 of this section. All persons to whom this section applies must be in
21 compliance with this section by December 31, 1997.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 18.32 RCW
23 to read as follows:

24 DENTISTS. Persons licensed under this chapter shall complete
25 continuing education on prescriptive drug diversion and abuse
26 prevention, including clinical methodology for identification of at
27 risk patients. The secretary shall adopt rules for minimum standards
28 for the continuing education curriculum and shall by rule set the
29 number of hours of continuing education required by a licensee. A
30 person renewing a registration under RCW 18.32.180 shall present proof
31 of compliance with the requirements of this section. All persons to
32 whom this section applies must be in compliance with this section by
33 December 31, 1997.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 18.57 RCW
35 to read as follows:

1 OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS. Persons licensed under this
2 chapter shall complete continuing education on prescriptive drug
3 diversion and abuse prevention, including clinical methodology for
4 identification of at risk patients. The secretary shall adopt rules
5 under RCW 18.57.050 for minimum standards for the continuing education
6 curriculum and shall by rule set the number of hours of continuing
7 education required by a licensee. A person renewing a license under
8 RCW 18.57.050 shall present proof of compliance with the requirements
9 of this section. All persons to whom this section applies must be in
10 compliance with this section by December 31, 1997.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 18.57A RCW
12 to read as follows:

13 OSTEOPATHIC PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON ASSISTANTS. Persons licensed
14 under this chapter shall complete continuing education on prescriptive
15 drug diversion and abuse prevention, including clinical methodology for
16 identification of at risk patients. The secretary of health shall
17 adopt rules under RCW 18.57A.020 for minimum standards for the
18 continuing education curriculum and shall by rule set the number of
19 hours of continuing education required by a licensee. A person
20 renewing a license under this chapter shall present proof of compliance
21 with the requirements of this section. All persons to whom this
22 section applies must be in compliance with this section by December 31,
23 1997.

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

26 PHARMACISTS. Persons licensed under this chapter shall complete
27 continuing education on prescriptive drug diversion and abuse
28 prevention, including clinical methodology for identification of at
29 risk patients. The secretary shall adopt rules under RCW 18.64.140 for
30 minimum standards for the continuing education curriculum and shall by
31 rule set the number of hours of continuing education required by a
32 licensee. A person renewing a license under RCW 18.64.140 shall
33 present proof of compliance with the requirements of this section. All
34 persons to whom this section applies must be in compliance with this
35 section by December 31, 1997.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 18.71 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 **PHYSICIANS AND SURGEONS.** Persons licensed under this chapter shall
4 complete continuing education on prescriptive drug diversion and abuse
5 prevention, including clinical methodology for identification of at
6 risk patients. The secretary shall adopt rules under RCW 18.71.080 for
7 minimum standards for the continuing education curriculum and shall by
8 rule set the number of hours of continuing education required by a
9 licensee. A person renewing a registration under RCW 18.71.080 shall
10 present proof of compliance with the requirements of this section. All
11 persons to whom this section applies must be in compliance with this
12 section by December 31, 1997.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 18.71A RCW
14 to read as follows:

15 **PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS.** Persons licensed under this chapter shall
16 complete continuing education on prescriptive drug diversion and abuse
17 prevention, including clinical methodology for identification of at
18 risk patients. The secretary shall adopt rules under RCW 18.71A.020
19 for minimum standards for the continuing education curriculum and shall
20 by rule set the number of hours of continuing education required by a
21 licensee. A person renewing a registration under RCW 18.71A.020 shall
22 present proof of compliance with the requirements of this section. All
23 persons to whom this section applies must be in compliance with this
24 section by December 31, 1997.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** A new section is added to chapter 18.88 RCW
26 to read as follows:

27 **NURSES--ADVANCED REGISTERED NURSE PRACTITIONERS.** Persons licensed
28 under this chapter who have prescriptive authority shall complete
29 continuing education on prescriptive drug diversion and abuse
30 prevention, including clinical methodology for identification of at
31 risk patients. The secretary shall adopt rules for minimum standards
32 for the continuing education curriculum and shall by rule set the
33 number of hours of continuing education required by a licensee. A
34 person renewing a license under RCW 18.88.190 shall present proof of
35 compliance with the requirements of this section. All persons to whom
36 this section applies must be in compliance with this section by
37 December 31, 1997.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** A new section is added to chapter 18.92 RCW
2 to read as follows:

3 VETERINARIANS. Persons licensed under this chapter who have
4 prescriptive authority shall complete continuing education on
5 prescriptive drug diversion and abuse prevention, including clinical
6 methodology for identification of at risk patients. The secretary
7 shall adopt rules for minimum standards for the continuing education
8 curriculum and shall by rule set the number of hours of continuing
9 education required by a licensee. A person renewing a license under
10 RCW 18.92.140 shall present proof of compliance with the requirements
11 of this section. All persons to whom this section applies must be in
12 compliance with this section by December 31, 1997.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** The board of pharmacy shall analyze and
14 report to the legislature by December 1, 1994, regarding the
15 advisability of upgrading the present electronic data gathering system
16 for prescription drugs. Further, the board of pharmacy shall explore
17 the feasibility of forming a committee that will establish criteria and
18 standards for reviewing the data gathered by such a system.

19 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** A new section is added to chapter 48.21 RCW
20 to read as follows:

21 Coverage under RCW 48.21.180 shall provide for coverage for
22 treatment of a prescription drug abuse patient in the physician's
23 office if part of a prescription drug abuse treatment program under the
24 definition of approved treatment program, RCW 70.96A.020.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** A new section is added to chapter 48.44 RCW
26 to read as follows:

27 Coverage under RCW 48.44.240 shall provide for coverage for
28 treatment of a prescription drug abuse patient in the physician's
29 office if part of a prescription drug abuse treatment program under the
30 definition of approved treatment program, RCW 70.96A.020.

31 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** A new section is added to chapter 48.46 RCW
32 to read as follows:

33 Coverage under RCW 48.46.350 shall provide for coverage for
34 treatment of a prescription drug abuse patient in the physician's

1 office if part of a prescription drug abuse treatment program under the
2 definition of approved treatment program, RCW 70.96A.020.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** A new section is added to chapter 43.72 RCW
4 to read as follows:

5 The commission shall consider adding treatment for prescription
6 drug abuse, under a multidisciplinary treatment model, to the uniform
7 benefits package.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 16.** A new section is added to chapter 10.05 RCW
9 to read as follows:

10 Deferred prosecution under this chapter is available for
11 prescription drug addiction.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 17.** A new section is added to chapter 18.130
13 RCW to read as follows:

14 A new practitioner who enters a profession listed in sections 2
15 through 11 of this act who has prescriptive or dispensing authority
16 shall be trained in prescriptive drug diversion and abuse prevention,
17 including clinical methodology for identification of at-risk patients.
18 Practitioners under this section have three years after the effective
19 date of this act to be in compliance.

20 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 18.** Captions used in this act do not constitute
21 any part of the law.

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