
**Health Care & Wellness
Committee**

HB 1356

Brief Description: Authorizing purchase of brand name drugs when cost-effective for all state purchased health care programs.

Sponsors: Representatives Cody, Campbell, Chase, Kenney, Ericks, Green, Conway, Wood and Dickerson.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Where the quality of care is not diminished, the State evidence-based prescription drug program will purchase the least expensive prescription drug, whether it be a brand drug or a generic equivalent.

Hearing Date: 1/24/07

Staff: Dave Knutson (786-7146).

Background:

The State evidence-based prescription drug program is required to ensure that generic drugs will be substituted for brand name drugs, where the quality of care is not diminished. In some cases this could result in the State paying more for a generic drug than for the brand name drug, which is subject to discounted prices and rebates.

Summary of Bill:

State agencies participating in the evidence-based prescription drug program will purchase the brand name drug if its cost, after receiving discounted prices and rebates, is less than the cost of the generic version of the drug for all participating agencies.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

This analysis was prepared by non-partisan legislative staff for the use of legislative members in their deliberations. This analysis is not a part of the legislation nor does it constitute a statement of legislative intent.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.