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## Health Care & Wellness Committee

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### HB 1720

**Brief Description:** Expanding the types of medication assistance that may be provided to residents of community-based care settings.

**Sponsors:** Representatives Schmick and Low.

**Brief Summary of Bill**

- Expands the authority for persons who are not practitioners to assist persons with prefilled insulin syringes to apply to setting up diabetic devices for self-administration and handing injectable medications to the person for self-administration.

**Hearing Date:** 2/11/25

**Staff:** Chris Blake (786-7392).

**Background:**

Legend drugs are those drugs that may only be dispensed by prescription or that are restricted to use by practitioners only. The term "practitioner" includes 18 different health professions, as well as certain health care facilities, such as pharmacies and hospitals. A practitioner's authority to prescribe, dispense, and administer legend drugs varies by profession and facility.

Persons who are not practitioners may provide medication assistance to persons living in specified care settings. The term "medication assistance" includes assistance to facilitate a person's self-administration of a legend drug, such as coaching the person, handing the medication container to the person, opening the medication container, placing the medication in the person's hand, and similar activities. The term does not include assistance with intravenous or injectable medications, except for prefilled insulin syringes. The applicable care settings

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include in-home care settings, such as an individual's residence, and community-based care settings, such as adult family homes, assisted living facilities, and community residential programs for persons with developmental disabilities.

**Summary of Bill:**

The authority for nonpractitioners to assist persons in community-based care settings and in-home care settings with prefilled insulin syringes is expanded to allow the nonpractitioner to set up diabetic devices for self-administration or hand injectable medications to the individual for self-administration.

**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Requested on February 20, 2025.

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