

HOUSE BILL NO. 195

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

THIRTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES MINA, Gray, Prax

Introduced: 4/15/25

Referred: Health and Social Services, Labor and Commerce, Finance

A BILL

FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 **"An Act relating to the prescription and administration of drugs and devices by**
2 **pharmacists; relating to reciprocity for pharmacists; and providing for an effective**
3 **date."**

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 * **Section 1.** AS 08.80.030(b) is amended to read:

6 (b) In order to fulfill its responsibilities, the board has the powers necessary
7 for implementation and enforcement of this chapter, including the power to

8 (1) elect a president and secretary from its membership and adopt rules
9 for the conduct of its business;

10 (2) license by examination or by license transfer the applicants who are
11 qualified to engage in the practice of pharmacy;

12 (3) assist the department in inspections and investigations for
13 violations of this chapter, or of any other state or federal statute relating to the practice
14 of pharmacy;

- 1 (4) adopt regulations to carry out the purposes of this chapter;
- 2 (5) establish and enforce compliance with professional standards and
- 3 rules of conduct for pharmacists engaged in the practice of pharmacy;
- 4 (6) determine standards for recognition and approval of degree
- 5 programs of schools and colleges of pharmacy whose graduates shall be eligible for
- 6 licensure in this state, including the specification and enforcement of requirements for
- 7 practical training, including internships;
- 8 (7) establish for pharmacists and pharmacies minimum specifications
- 9 for the physical facilities, technical equipment, personnel, and procedures for the
- 10 storage, compounding, and dispensing of drugs or related devices, and for the
- 11 monitoring of drug therapy, including independent monitoring of drug therapy;
- 12 (8) enforce the provisions of this chapter relating to the conduct or
- 13 competence of pharmacists practicing in the state, and the suspension, revocation, or
- 14 restriction of licenses to engage in the practice of pharmacy;
- 15 (9) license and regulate the training, qualifications, and employment of
- 16 pharmacy interns and pharmacy technicians;
- 17 (10) license and regulate the qualifications of entities and individuals
- 18 engaged in the manufacture or distribution of drugs and related devices;
- 19 (11) establish and maintain a controlled substance prescription
- 20 database as provided in AS 17.30.200;
- 21 (12) establish standards for the independent prescribing and
- 22 administration of vaccines and related emergency medications under AS 08.80.168,
- 23 including the completion of an immunization training program approved by the board
- 24 and an epinephrine auto-injector training program under AS 17.22.020(b);
- 25 (13) establish standards for the independent prescribing and dispensing
- 26 by a pharmacist of an opioid overdose drug under AS 17.20.085, including the
- 27 completion of an opioid overdose training program approved by the board;
- 28 (14) require that a licensed pharmacist who **prescribes, administers,**
- 29 **or** dispenses a **schedule IA, IIA, IIIA, IVA, or VA controlled substance under**
- 30 **state law or** schedule II, III, [OR] IV, **or V** controlled substance under federal law to a
- 31 person in the state register with the controlled substance prescription database under

AS 17.30.200(n);

(15) establish the qualifications and duties of the executive administrator and delegate authority to the executive administrator that is necessary to conduct board business;

(16) license and inspect the facilities of pharmacies, manufacturers, wholesale drug distributors, third-party logistics providers, and outsourcing facilities located outside the state under AS 08.80.159;

(17) license Internet-based pharmacies providing services to residents in the state;

(18) adopt regulations pertaining to retired pharmacist status.

* **Sec. 2.** AS 08.80.110 is amended to read:

Sec. 08.80.110. Qualifications for licensure by examination. An applicant for licensure as a pharmacist shall

(1) be fluent in the reading, writing, and speaking of the English language;

(2) be a graduate of a college in a degree program approved by the board;

(3) pass an examination or examinations given by the board or acceptable to the board under the score transfer process administered by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy;

(4) have completed internship training or another program that has been approved by the board or demonstrated to the board's satisfaction that the applicant has experience in the practice of pharmacy that meets or exceeds the minimum internship requirements of the board; **and**

(5) receive education in pain management and opioid use and addiction, unless the applicant has demonstrated to the satisfaction of the board that the applicant does not currently hold a valid federal Drug Enforcement Administration registration number; an applicant may include past professional experience or professional education as proof of professional competence.

* **Sec. 3.** AS 08.80.145 is amended to read:

Sec. 08.80.145. Reciprocity; license transfer. If another jurisdiction allows

1 licensure in that jurisdiction of a pharmacist licensed in this state under conditions
 2 similar to those in this section, the board may license as a pharmacist in this state a
 3 person licensed as a pharmacist in the other jurisdiction if the person

4 (1) submits a written application to the board on a form required by the
 5 board;

6 (2) is at least 18 years of age;

7 (3) possesses at the time of the request for licensure as a pharmacist in
 8 this state the qualifications necessary to be eligible for licensure in this state;

9 (4) has engaged in the practice of pharmacy for at least one year
 10 immediately before applying for a license under this section;

11 (5) presents proof satisfactory to the board that the person is currently
 12 licensed as a pharmacist in the other jurisdiction and does not currently have a
 13 pharmacist license suspended, revoked, or otherwise restricted except for failure to
 14 apply for renewal or failure to obtain the required continuing education credits;

15 (6) has passed an examination approved by the board that tests the
 16 person's knowledge of Alaska laws relating to pharmacies and pharmacists and the
 17 regulations adopted under those laws; [AND]

18 (7) meets the requirements of AS 08.80.110(5); and

19 (8) pays all required fees.

20 * **Sec. 4.** AS 08.80.165 is amended to read:

21 **Sec. 08.80.165. Continuing education requirements.** The board shall
 22 establish requirements for continuing education in pharmacy that must be satisfied
 23 before a license issued under this chapter may be renewed. **The continuing education**
 24 **requirements must include at least two hours of education in pain management**
 25 **and opioid use and addiction in the two years preceding an application for**
 26 **renewal of a license. The board may exempt a licensee from the requirement to**
 27 **receive at least two hours of education in pain management and opioid use and**
 28 **addiction if the licensee demonstrates to the satisfaction of the board that**

29 **(1) the licensee's practice does not include pain management and**
 30 **opioid prescription or administration; or**

31 **(2) the licensee does not currently hold a valid federal Drug**

Enforcement Administration registration number.

* **Sec. 5.** AS 08.80.337(a) is amended to read:

(a) A pharmacist may, under a collaborative practice agreement with a written protocol approved by a practitioner **who is not a pharmacist**, provide patient care services.

* **Sec. 6.** AS 08.80.337(d) is amended to read:

(d) In this section, "patient care services" means medical care services, **including the prescription or administration of a drug or device to a patient, that are** given in exchange for compensation **and** intended to achieve outcomes related to the cure or prevention of a disease, elimination or reduction of a patient's symptoms, or arresting or slowing of a disease process.

* **Sec. 7.** AS 08.80.337 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(e) A pharmacist prescribing or administering a drug or device under this section shall recognize the limits of the pharmacist's education, training, and experience and consult with and refer to other practitioners as appropriate.

* **Sec. 8.** AS 08.80.480(30) is amended to read:

(30) "practice of pharmacy" means the interpretation, evaluation, and dispensing of prescription drug orders in the patient's best interest; participation in drug and device selection, drug administration, drug regimen reviews, and drug or drug-related research; provision of patient counseling and the provision of those acts or services necessary to provide pharmaceutical care; the independent prescribing, dispensing, and administration of drugs in accordance with AS 08.80.168; **providing patient care services in accordance with AS 08.80.337;** the responsibility for compounding and labeling of drugs and devices except labeling by a manufacturer, repackager, or distributor of nonprescription drugs and commercially packaged legend drugs and devices; proper and safe storage of drugs and devices; and maintenance of proper records for them;

* **Sec. 9.** AS 08.80.480 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(40) "opioid" includes the opium and opiate substances and opium and opiate derivatives listed in AS 11.71.140 and 11.71.160.

* **Sec. 10.** AS 08.80.337(c) is repealed.

1 * **Sec. 11.** This Act takes effect January 1, 2026.