



\General
Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 171

January Session, 2023



AN ACT ALLOWING PHARMACISTS TO PRESCRIBE BIRTH CONTROL MEDICATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) For the purposes of this
2 section:

3 (1) "Department" means the Department of Consumer Protection;

4 (2) "Emergency contraceptive" means a drug, or a combination of
5 drugs, approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration to
6 prevent pregnancy as soon as possible following (A) unprotected
7 sexual intercourse, or (B) a known or suspected contraceptive failure;

8 (3) "Hormonal contraceptive" means a drug, including, but not
9 limited to, a hormonal contraceptive patch, an intravaginal hormonal
10 contraceptive or an oral hormonal contraceptive, composed of a
11 hormone, or a combination of hormones, approved by the federal Food
12 and Drug Administration to prevent pregnancy;

13 (4) "Legend drug" has the same meaning as provided in section 20-
14 571 of the general statutes;

15 (5) "Pharmacist" has the same meaning as provided in section 20-571

16 of the general statutes;

17 (6) "Pharmacy" has the same meaning as provided in section 20-571
18 of the general statutes;

19 (7) "Pharmacy technician" has the same meaning as provided in
20 section 20-571 of the general statutes; and

21 (8) "Prescribe" means to order, or designate a remedy or any
22 preparation of, a legend drug for a specific patient.

23 (b) A pharmacist certified in accordance with the provisions of this
24 section may prescribe, in good faith, an emergency contraceptive or
25 hormonal contraceptive to a patient sixteen years of age or older
26 subject to the following conditions:

27 (1) The pharmacist has completed an educational training program
28 that (A) concerns prescribing emergency contraceptives and hormonal
29 contraceptives by a pharmacist, (B) addresses appropriate medical
30 screening of patients, contraindications, drug interactions, treatment
31 strategies and modifications and when to refer patients to medical
32 providers, and (C) is accredited by the Accreditation Council for
33 Pharmacy Education;

34 (2) The pharmacist has reviewed the most current version of the
35 United States Medical Eligibility Criteria for Contraceptive Use
36 published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, or any
37 successor document thereto, prior to prescribing any emergency
38 contraceptive or hormonal contraceptive and, if the pharmacist
39 deviates from the guidance provided in such document, documents
40 the pharmacist's rationale in deviating from such guidance in writing;

41 (3) Prior to dispensing an emergency contraceptive or hormonal
42 contraceptive and at least once per calendar year thereafter for any
43 returning patient, the pharmacist completes a screening document,
44 which the department shall make available on the department's
45 Internet web site, and the pharmacist, or the pharmacy that employs

46 such pharmacist, retains such document for at least three years, except
47 nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to prevent a pharmacist,
48 in the pharmacist's professional discretion, from issuing a prescription
49 for a hormonal contraceptive for a period not to exceed twelve months
50 or from requiring more frequent screenings;

51 (4) If the pharmacist determines that prescribing an emergency
52 contraceptive or hormonal contraceptive to a patient is clinically
53 appropriate, the pharmacist shall (A) counsel the patient about what
54 the patient should monitor and when the patient should seek
55 additional medical attention, and (B) send notice to any health care
56 provider that the patient identifies as the patient's primary care
57 provider or, if the patient does not disclose the identity of the patient's
58 primary care provider, provide to the patient any relevant
59 documentation; and

60 (5) The pharmacist provides to the patient a document outlining
61 age-appropriate health screenings that are consistent with
62 recommendations made by the Centers for Disease Control and
63 Prevention.

64 (c) A pharmacy technician may, at a pharmacist's request, assist the
65 pharmacist in prescribing an emergency contraceptive or hormonal
66 contraceptive to a patient by providing screening documentation to the
67 patient, taking and recording the patient's blood pressure and
68 documenting the patient's medical history, provided the pharmacy
69 technician has completed an educational training program that
70 satisfies the requirements established in subdivision (1) of subsection
71 (b) of this section.

72 (d) Each pharmacy shall maintain copies of all documents
73 concerning any screening performed under this section for at least
74 three years, and each pharmacy shall, upon request by the department,
75 make such screening documents available to the department for
76 inspection.

77 (e) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may adopt
78 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to
79 implement the provisions of this section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
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PH *Joint Favorable Subst.*