

2016 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 131

BY SENATOR JOHNS

HEALTH CARE. Provides for alternative options to prescription drugs. (8/1/16)

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AN ACT

To enact R.S. 37:1165, relative to the practice of pharmacy; to provide for pharmacist communication with patients; to provide for immunity; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 37:1165 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1165. Affordable alternative options to prescription drugs

A. Pharmacists shall provide sufficient information to a patient to allow them an opportunity to consider all relevant options when acquiring their prescription medication, including but not limited to the cost and clinical efficacy of a more affordable alternative if one is available.

B. The failure to comply with this Section shall not constitute a violation of any contract or provision of any agreement to which the pharmacist or pharmacy is a party.

C. No pharmacist shall be penalized by the board or any third party for failure to comply with the provisions of this Section.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective on August 1, 2016; if vetoed by the

1 governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on
2 August 1, 2016, or on the day following such approval by the legislature, whichever is later.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Christine Arbo Peck.

SB 131 Original	DIGEST 2016 Regular Session	Johns
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Proposed law requires pharmacists to provide information on alternatives to prescription drugs when there is a clinically effective, less costly alternative available. Further provides that making this information available does not constitute a breach of contract or agreement. Provides for immunity from penalization.

Effective August 1, 2016.

(Adds R.S. 37:1165)