



Ohio Legislative Service Commission

Bill Analysis

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H.B. 501

130th General Assembly
(As Introduced)

Reps. Smith and Sprague

BILL SUMMARY

- Adds Zohydro to the list of schedule I controlled substances.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

The bill adds the drug Zohydro, a hydrocodone product, to the list of schedule I controlled substances.¹

Background

A controlled substance is a drug, compound, mixture, preparation, or substance included in schedule I, II, III, IV, or V under federal² or state law.³ A schedule I classification indicates the following: (1) the drug has a high potential for abuse, (2) it has no currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States, and (3) there is a lack of accepted safety for its use under medical supervision.⁴ Ohio law prohibits a licensed health professional authorized to prescribe drugs from prescribing a schedule I controlled substance.⁵ Examples of schedule I controlled substances include marijuana, heroin, and LSD.⁶

¹ R.C. 3719.41.

² 21 United States Code (U.S.C.) 812 and 21 Code of Federal Regulations 1308.11 through 1308.15.

³ R.C. 3719.01 (not in the bill) and R.C. 3719.41.

⁴ See 21 U.S.C. 812(b)(1).

⁵ R.C. 2925.03, 2925.11, 2925.36, and 3719.06 (not in the bill).

⁶ R.C. 3719.41.

At present, Ohio law classifies hydrocodone as a schedule II controlled substance.⁷ While a licensed health professional may prescribe a schedule II controlled substance, Ohio law prohibits the prescription from being refilled.⁸ Although the bill adds Zohydro, a specific hydrocodone product, to the list of schedule I controlled substances, it does not modify the reference to hydrocodone, in general, that exists under schedule II.

Zohydro ER is the first single-entity (not combined with another analgesic such as acetaminophen) and extended-release hydrocodone product approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. It is indicated for the management of pain severe enough to require daily, around-the-clock, long-term opioid treatment and for which alternative treatment options are inadequate.⁹

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	03-20-14

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⁷ R.C. 3719.41.

⁸ R.C. 3719.05 and 3719.06 (not in the bill).

⁹ U.S. Food and Drug Administration, *FDA approves extended-release, single-entity hydrocodone product* (Oct. 25, 2013), available at <http://www.fda.gov/newsevents/newsroom/pressannouncements/ucm372287.htm> (last visited March 24, 2014).

