

Health

H.B. 37

Primary Sponsors: Rep. Manning

Effective date: June 1, 2022

- Increases from one to three the number of times that a pharmacist may dispense certain refills without a prescription to a specific patient within a 12-month period.
- Requires a health insurer to cover prescription drugs dispensed under the act if those drugs are already covered under the insurer's health benefit plan, and prohibits the insurer from imposing a cost-sharing requirement that is greater than that imposed on a drug dispensed with a prescription.

H.B. 136

Primary Sponsor: Rep. Lipps

Effective date: June 13, 2022

- Expands Medicaid coverage of chiropractic services to include evaluation and management services provided by a licensed chiropractor.
- Permits the Medicaid Director to adopt rules to cover other services provided by a chiropractor.
- Prohibits the Medicaid program from imposing a prior authorization requirement on the covered services or making the coverage contingent on receiving a referral, prescription, or treatment from another licensed health professional.
- Requires the Medicaid program to pay a chiropractor the same amount for a service that it pays another licensed health professional authorized to provide the service.

H.B. 178

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Schmidt and A. Miller

Effective date: April 3, 2023

- Limits the pressure of water features at public swimming pools, public spas, and special use pools.
- Names the act Makenna's Law.

H.B. 193

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Cutrona and Pavliga

Effective date: September 23, 2022

Dispensing of schedule II controlled substances

- Generally limits pharmacist dispensing of schedule II controlled substances to only those prescribed electronically.
- Requires prescribers, when prescribing a schedule II controlled substance, to issue an electronic prescription, but allows for written prescriptions in specified circumstances.

Pharmacy pilot program

- Clarifies that pharmacy participation in the existing pilot program for dispensing schedule II controlled substances in lockable or tamper-evident containers is voluntary.

Overdose reversal drugs

- Replaces references to “naloxone” in the Revised Code with the term “overdose reversal drug,” defined as naloxone and any other drug approved for reversal of an opioid-related overdose.

Physician consultations

- Requires an Ohio-licensed physician who receives a consultation from an out-of-state physician to have an established physician-patient relationship with the patient who is the subject of the consultation, in place of prior law that required the Ohio-licensed physician to be responsible for examining, diagnosing, and treating that patient.

Pediatric respite care programs

- Recognizes an additional type of pediatric respite care program, one that provides services in a home-like setting for ten or fewer children diagnosed with life-threatening conditions, and extends the pediatric respite care licensing requirements to them.
- Establishes other requirements on home-like programs, including maintaining birth certificates and certified guardianship letters of authority for any patient receiving care for longer than 30 days, unless waived by the Director of Health.

H.B. 281

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Jarrells and Young

Effective date: April 6, 2023

Mental health and disability terminology

- Replaces various statutory terms related to people with disabilities or mental illness.

- Updates laws relating to assistance dogs, braille teacher standards, the Children with Medical Handicaps Program, the former Ohio Commission for the Blind, and accessible parking spaces.
- Names the act the “Mental Health and Disability Terminology Act.”

Commission on African-Americans

- Changes the name of the “Commission on African-American Males” to the “Commission on African-Americans.”
- Specifies that the Commission is required to direct its various efforts for African-Americans rather than, as in current law, specifically for black males.
- Transfers to the Ohio State University Bell National Resource Center certain responsibilities with respect to the Commission.

H.B. 558

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Roemer and Jordan

Effective date: April 6, 2023

Drug repository program

- Revises the State Board of Pharmacy’s Drug Repository Program, including by allowing charitable pharmacies, hospitals, and nonprofit clinics to accept or distribute donated drugs that are not in their original sealed and tamper-evident unit dose packaging.
- Excludes from the program any drug for which the federal Food and Drug Administration, as a risk evaluation and mitigation strategy, requires that the patient be registered with the drug’s manufacturer.
- Authorizes participating charitable pharmacies, hospitals, and nonprofit clinics to make occasional sales of donated drugs at wholesale.
- Exempts participating charitable pharmacies from the licensure and renewal fees that otherwise must be paid to operate as a pharmacy.
- Extends the authority to distribute drugs under the program to licensed health professionals authorized to prescribe drugs.
- Eliminates the requirement that the Board consult with the Director of Health when adopting rules.

Adding drug delivery devices to prescriptions

- Authorizes a pharmacist to modify a drug’s prescription to also include a drug delivery device if the pharmacist considers the device necessary for administering the drug.
- Specifies that the modified prescription is a valid prescription for the device for purposes of reimbursement under a health benefit plan.

Access to overdose reversal drugs

- Generally expands access to overdose reversal drugs, such as naloxone, including by authorizing access for all persons and government entities to purchase, possess, distribute, dispense, personally furnish, sell, or otherwise obtain or provide an overdose reversal drug and any instrument or device to administer it.
- Consolidates, but largely maintains, other more specific overdose reversal drug provisions, including those related to maintaining supplies, the authority of various health care providers, and immunities from liability.
- Permits physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses to authorize a pharmacist or pharmacy intern to dispense overdose reversal drugs without a prescription pursuant to a protocol.
- Expressly authorizes an individual, when not otherwise authorized to administer drugs under Ohio law, to administer an overdose reversal drug if the individual is in a position to assist another who is apparently experiencing an opioid-related overdose.

Pediatric transition care programs

- Eliminates licensure for pediatric respite care programs that provide only pediatric transition care, and instead requires registration for those programs.
- Defines “pediatric transition care program” as a program that arranges for health care and related services, including skilled nursing care, in a private home setting for up to 15 children who have been diagnosed with life-threatening diseases and conditions.
- Requires the Director of Health to adopt rules relating to the registration of pediatric transition care programs, including establishing fees for initial registration, registration renewal, and inspections.

Awareness designations

- Designates the fourth Wednesday of February as “Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy Awareness Day.”
- Designates March as “Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month.”