



Alaska Pharmacists Association

"HB145, "An Act relating to the Board of Pharmacy; relating to health care services provided by pharmacists and pharmacy technicians; and relating to the practice of pharmacy."

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Why Is This Bill Needed?

The coronavirus pandemic has shown that pharmacists can engage at a much higher level to help deliver necessary healthcare to all Alaskans.

From COVID testing, vaccinating, providing telehealth visits and helping patients manage their chronic health conditions (e.g., hypertension, diabetes, etc.), this bill will help update outdated statute so these beneficial pharmacist-provided healthcare services can continue beyond the pandemic.

What Does This Bill Do?

1. It clearly defines patient care services that pharmacists and pharmacy support staff can independently provide.
 - This increases access to healthcare services, particularly in rural and underserved areas;
 - Allows pharmacists to supervise pharmacy technicians to administer vaccines; and
 - Decreases total healthcare costs through improved drug utilization and disease prevention.
2. It empowers the Board of Pharmacy to regulate pharmacists, student pharmacists, and pharmacy support staff who provide these services.
3. It updates the current provider anti-discrimination statute to support insurance coverage of these patient care services when provided by a pharmacist (pharmacists are one of the only healthcare professionals not listed in this statute).

What Doesn't This Bill Do?

- It does not expand existing services pharmacists are currently providing.

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