

HB 3046 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care

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Meeting Dates: 2/18, 3/6

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure clarifies a pharmacist's role in prescribing, dispensing, administering, and storing medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD).

Detailed Summary

- Clarifies that the practice of pharmacy includes the prescribing, dispensing, and administering of MOUD.
- Permits pharmacist to register with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) as a mid-level practitioner for the purpose of prescribing, dispensing, and administering MOUD.
- Changes "prescription drug locker" to "pharmacy prescription locker" and clarifies permissible use by retail drug outlets.
- Takes effect on 91st day following adjournment sine die.

FISCAL: Has minimal fiscal impact.

REVENUE: No revenue impact.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- New authorities intended for pharmacists in House Bill 4002 (2024).
- Current limitations of pharmacists prescribing of MOUD and impacts on access.
- Public Health & Pharmacy Formulary Advisory Committee (PHPFAC) process and protocols.
- Expectations for connection to broader behavioral health system.

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

During the 2024 Session, the Legislative Assembly passed House Bill 4002 and House Bill 5204, reintroducing potential criminal penalties for drug possession while also investing over \$200 million improving access to behavioral health services. House Bill 4002 also included provisions intended to improve access to medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD), including allowing pharmacists to prescribe and dispense early refills of MOUD and allowing retail drug outlets to utilize prescription drug lockers.

House Bill 3046 clarifies a pharmacist's role in prescribing, dispensing, administering, and storing medications for opioid use disorder.