

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 162

BY REPRESENTATIVE HOFFMANN

BOARDS/COMMISSIONS: Urges and requests the La. Board of Pharmacy to recognize more than one accredited pharmacy technician certification program

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy to recognize more than one accredited
3 pharmacy technician certification program prior to adopting final rules pursuant to
4 its administrative rulemaking initiative entitled "Regulatory Project 2015-19 -
5 Pharmacy Technicians".

6 WHEREAS, pharmacists are highly educated healthcare professionals who provide
7 convenient, high-quality healthcare services, including medication management therapy,
8 immunizations, long-acting injectable medications, disease management, point-of-care
9 testing, and patient assessments and screenings to a great number of patients; and

10 WHEREAS, Louisiana pharmacists work in partnership with other healthcare entities
11 and providers to improve patient outcomes and public health in this state; and

12 WHEREAS, in an effort to improve patient care, Louisiana pharmacists and
13 pharmacy owners support a practice environment that utilizes and promotes well-qualified
14 pharmacy technicians as essential members of the pharmacy care team; and

15 WHEREAS, certified pharmacy technicians in Louisiana are paraprofessionals who
16 work exclusively under the direct supervision of a licensed pharmacist and assist pharmacists
17 in preparing and dispensing prescription medications, administrative duties, and performing
18 pharmacy care services; and

19 WHEREAS, the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy requires a certified pharmacy
20 technician to complete six hundred hours of board-approved training and pass a nationally
21 accredited certification examination; and

1 WHEREAS, because no single training and certification method meets the needs of
2 all pharmacy technicians or community pharmacies, pharmacists and pharmacy owners
3 support multiple pathways for certified pharmacy technicians so that those technicians may
4 complete a certification program that is best suited for the work they will perform in their
5 unique practice setting, whether that setting is a hospital, a community-based provider, a
6 long-term care facility, a nuclear pharmacy, or other pharmacy location; and

7 WHEREAS, the National Commission for Certifying Agencies is a nationally
8 recognized third party agency that accredits certification programs which are able to meet
9 and comply with its standards, and has accredited more than one pharmacy technician
10 certification exam; and

11 WHEREAS, though the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy has the authority to approve
12 multiple nationally accredited certification programs, the board has chosen to recognize only
13 one such program, resulting in a statewide monopoly for the sole company that administers
14 the only board-approved examination; and

15 WHEREAS, without competition, monopolistic pricing could cause financial
16 difficulty, obstacles to practice, and undue strain for professionals who provide vital
17 healthcare services.

18 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
19 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy to
20 expand upon its exclusive agreement with the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board, and
21 to change its definition of "approved certification examination" in order to recognize more
22 than one pharmacy technician certification program accredited by the National Commission
23 for Certifying Agencies prior to adopting final rules pursuant to the administrative
24 rulemaking effort that the board has entitled "Regulatory Project 2015-19 - Pharmacy
25 Technicians".

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the
27 chairperson and the executive director of the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 162 Original

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Hoffmann

Urges and requests the La. Board of Pharmacy to expand upon its exclusive agreement with the Pharmacy Technician Certification Board, and to change its definition of "approved certification examination" in order to recognize more than one pharmacy technician certification program accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies.