

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 146

BY SENATOR MILLS

A RESOLUTION

To urge and request the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy to consider alternative training and certification options for pharmacy technicians.

WHEREAS, pharmacists provide convenient healthcare services, including medication management therapy, immunizations, long-acting injectable medications, disease management, point-of-care testing, and patient assessments and screenings to a great number of patients each day; and

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

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

WHEREAS, certified pharmacy technicians in Louisiana work under the direct supervision of a licensed pharmacist and assist pharmacists in preparing and dispensing prescription medications, administrative duties, and performing pharmacy care services; and

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

WHEREAS, although there are multiple nationally accredited training and certification programs available, the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy has elected to recognize only one such program; and

WHEREAS, because no single training and certification method meets the needs of all pharmacy technicians or community pharmacies, pharmacists and pharmacy owners support alternative options for pharmacy technicians so that those technicians may complete a certification program that is best suited for the work they will perform in their unique practice setting; and

WHEREAS, the National Commission for Certifying Agencies is a nationally recognized entity that accredits certification programs that are able to meet and comply with its standards, and has accredited more than one pharmacy technician certification exam; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy should consider whether those training and certification programs made available by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies or any other accreditation entity may be appropriate options for pharmacy technicians.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy to consider alternative training and certification options for pharmacy technicians prior to adopting final rules pursuant the Administrative Procedure Act regarding the board's rulemaking effort entitled "Regulatory Project 2015-19 - Pharmacy Technicians".

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

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE