

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No Revenue Impact

Action Date: 02/17/16

Action: Do Pass The A-Eng Bill.

Meeting Dates: 02/17

Vote:

Yeas: 9 - Buehler, Clem, Greenlick, Hayden, Kennemer, Keny-Guyer, Lively, Nosse, Weidner

Prepared By: Sandy Thiele-Cirka, Committee Administrator

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Permits drug outlet participating in Charitable Prescription Drug Program to repackage certain donated prescription drugs for distribution by other program participants. Requires drug outlet to maintain separate inventory of donated prescription drugs received by drug outlet and transferred to another drug outlet. Limits distribution of donated prescription drugs received by the drug outlet from another drug outlet only to individuals with a prescription for prescription drugs. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Purpose of the bill
- Requirements for repackaged drugs donated by another charitable prescription drug program
- Another access tool for low-income individuals

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:

No amendment.

BACKGROUND:

The Charitable Prescription Drug Program provides an opportunity for uninsured Oregonians to access life-saving prescription drugs. The program operates by accepting surplus drugs from primarily long-term care pharmacies and donating them to charitable pharmacies that serve vulnerable people. The surplus medication typically comes in the form of large blister cards which are then repackaged by the charitable pharmacy into regular patient vials before being dispensed.

Currently, most eligible charitable pharmacies that are able to participate in the program cannot because they do not have the space, staffing, or equipment necessary to store and repackage medication from the large blister cards. This hampers the impact of the program.

Senate Bill 1514-A allows the charitable pharmacies that have the ability to repack medications from the blister cards to send them to the charitable pharmacies that cannot. These charitable pharmacies would be allowed to dispense donated medication to their patients as well.