

HB 2935 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Monnes Anderson

Senate Committee On Health Care

Action Date: 05/22/19

Action: Do pass with amendments to the A-Eng bill. (Printed B-Eng.)

Vote: 5-0-0-0

Yeas: 5 - Beyer, Fagan, Knopp, Linthicum, Monnes Anderson

Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact

Revenue: No revenue impact

Prepared By: Brian Nieubuurt, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 5/1, 5/15, 5/20, 5/22

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Requires pharmacies to notify people to whom a prescription drug is dispensed that a prescription reader is available to the person upon request. Requires pharmacies to provide a prescription reader to a person who is blind. Requires pharmacies that provide a prescription reader to ensure that the prescription label is compatible with the reader. Defines "person who is blind" and "prescription reader." Exempts institutional drug outlets from requirements. Requires the State Board of Pharmacy to adopt rules. Declares emergency, effective on passage.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Legislation in Nevada
- Current availability of prescription readers

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Exempts "institutional drug outlets."

BACKGROUND:

For consumers to safely and effectively manage their medications, it is critical that they understand the types of medications prescribed, the recommended doses, duration, and potential side effects. Prescription drugs dispensed by pharmacists include labels that provide written information and instructions for consumers, but reading and understanding the labels on prescription drugs can be difficult for individuals who are visually impaired or blind. In recent years, companies have developed devices that read the information provided on a prescription bottle aloud, helping individuals identify and manage their medications.

House Bill 2935-B requires pharmacies to provide access to prescription readers for blind and visually impaired customers.