H.286

Introduced by Representative Cordes of Lincoln

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Health; health care practitioners; regulated drugs

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to update statutes related to the authorized professional use of regulated drugs to reflect that prescribing, administering, and dispensing regulated drugs is within the existing scope of practice of many health care professional disciplines.

An act relating to the authorized professional use of regulated drugs

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 4201 is amended to read:

§ 4201. DEFINITIONS

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

* * *

(24) “Practitioner” includes a physician, dentist, veterinarian, surgeon, or any other person who may be lawfully entitled under this chapter to means any health care professional licensed in this State who, within the health care professional’s scope of practice, may distribute, dispense, prescribe, or administer regulated drugs to patients.
Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 4210 is amended to read:

§ 4210. AUTHORIZED SALES ON WRITTEN ORDERS, RECORDS

(a) Every physician, dentist, veterinarian, or other person who is licensed to administer, sell, dispense, or professionally use regulated drugs. Each practitioner shall keep a record of such drugs received by him or her all regulated drugs the practitioner receives and a record of all such regulated drugs administered, dispensed, or professionally used by him or her otherwise than by prescription, in accordance with subsection (d) of this section. It shall, however, be deemed a sufficient compliance with this subsection if any such person a practitioner using small quantities of solutions or other preparations of such regulated drugs for local application shall keep a record of the quantity, character, and potency of such the solutions or other preparations purchased or made up by him or her the practitioner purchased or prepared, and of the dates when purchased or made up of purchase or preparation, without keeping a record of the amount of each such solution or other preparation the practitioner applied by him or her to individual patients.
Sec. 3. 18 V.S.A. § 4212 is amended to read:

§ 4212. LABELS

(a) Whenever a manufacturer sells or dispenses a regulated drug and whenever in a package prepared by the manufacturer or a wholesaler sells or dispenses a regulated drug in a package prepared by him or her the wholesaler, he or she the manufacturer or wholesaler, as applicable, shall securely affix to each package in which that drug is contained a label showing in legible English the name and address of the vendor and the quantity, kind, and form of regulated drug contained therein. No person, except a pharmacist or dispensing physician practitioner for the purpose of filling a prescription under this chapter, shall alter, deface, or remove any label so affixed.

(b)(1) Whenever a pharmacist or an employee of a hospital, infirmary, school, first aid station, or nursing home sells or dispenses any regulated drug, he or she the pharmacist or employee shall affix to the container in which such the drug is sold or dispensed a label showing:

(A) his or her the pharmacist’s or employee’s own name, address, and registry number, or the name, address, and registry number of the pharmacist or hospital or nursing home for whom he or she the pharmacist or employee is lawfully acting;

(B) the name and address of the patient, or if the patient is an animal the name and address of the owner of the animal and the species of the animal.
the name, address and registry number of the physician, dentist, or veterinarian by whom the prescription was written, the practitioner who wrote the prescription;

the kind and form of the drug contained therein enclosed in the container, unless the practitioner has specifically ordered in that prescription that such information not be specified on the label;

such directions as may be stated on the prescription and the date of the issuance of the prescription.

(2) No person shall alter, deface, or remove any label so affixed in accordance with this subsection.

(3) This subsection shall not apply to regulated drugs sold or dispensed for use exclusively within a hospital.

A practitioner dispensing a regulated drug shall affix to the container a label showing:

the dispensing practitioner’s name, address, and registry number;

the name and address of the patient, or if the patient is an animal, the name and address of the owner of the animal and the species of the animal;

the kind and form of the drug contained therein enclosed in the container unless the dispensing practitioner considers that such information should not be so specified for medical reasons.
(D) such directions as are necessary for use; and

(E) the date of the issuance of the prescription and the dispensing of the drug.

(2) This subsection shall not apply to an amount of regulated drugs equivalent to three days’ dosage dispensed to a patient for his or her the patient’s immediate use without charge by a physician practitioner on a house call.

Sec. 4. 18 V.S.A. § 4213 is amended to read:

§ 4213. AUTHORIZED SALES OF REGULATED DRUGS

(a) A duly licensed manufacturer or wholesaler may sell and dispense regulated drugs to any of the following persons, but only on official written orders:

(1) To a manufacturer, wholesaler, or pharmacy.

(2) To a physician, dentist, or veterinarian practitioner, except that an official written order shall not be required when regulated drugs:

(A) are provided in person by a representative of a duly licensed manufacturer or wholesaler in quantities as samples for which there is no charge, either direct or indirect; and;

(B) do not exceed ten times the manufacturer’s recommended maximum individual dose; and
(C) are clearly marked “Sample” or “Not For Sale” on each individual tablet or capsule.

* * *

(e) A person in charge of a hospital or of a laboratory, or in the employ of this State or of any other state, or of any political subdivision thereof; or a master of a ship or a person in charge of any aircraft upon which no physician or surgeon is regularly employed; or a physician or surgeon duly licensed in some state, territory, or the District of Columbia, to practice his or her profession; or a retired commissioned medical officer of the U.S. Army, Navy, or Public Health Service employed upon such ship or aircraft, who obtains regulated drugs under the provisions of this section or otherwise, shall not possess, nor administer, nor dispense, nor otherwise use such drugs, within this State, except within the scope of his or her employment or official duty, and then only for scientific or medicinal purposes and subject to the provisions of this chapter.

Sec. 5. 18 V.S.A. § 4214 is amended to read:

§ 4214. AUTHORIZED PROFESSIONAL USE OF REGULATED DRUGS

(a) A physician or dentist licensed under this chapter, in good faith and in the course of his or her professional practice only, licensed practitioner other than a veterinarian, working within the course and scope of the practitioner’s
practice, may prescribe, administer, and dispense regulated drugs to patients under the practitioner’s care and he or she may cause the same regulated drugs to be administered under the practitioner’s direction or supervision, for medical purposes only, by a nurse or other health care professional licensed under this chapter or under Title 26, or an intern, medical or dental assistant, or a resident, or in his or her absence by a responsible member of the family of the patient, under his or her direction and supervision.

(b) A duly licensed veterinarian, in good faith and in working within the course and scope of his or her professional practice only and not for use by a human being, may prescribe, administer, and dispense regulated drugs to animals under the veterinarian’s care and he or she may cause them regulated drugs to be administered under the veterinarian’s direction and supervision, for medical purposes only, by an assistant or orderly or by the owner of the animal, under his or her direction and supervision.

(c) Any person who has obtained from a physician, dentist, or veterinarian any regulated drug for administration to a patient during the absence of such physician, dentist, or veterinarian under this section shall return to such physician, dentist, or veterinarian any unused portion of such drug, or shall take such action as may be specified by regulation adopted by the Board of Health, when such drug is no longer required by the patient. [Repealed.]
Sec. 6. 18 V.S.A. § 4215 is amended to read:

§ 4215. AUTHORIZED SALES BY PHARMACISTS

* * *

(b)(1) The pharmacist filling a schedule II prescription shall write the date of filling and the pharmacist’s own signature on the face of the prescription, or if an electronic prescription, shall enter the date of filling and the pharmacist’s name into the electronic record.

* * *

(4) A physician practitioner who dispenses regulated drugs as part of his or her the practitioner’s regular fee or for an additional fee shall be subject to the same requirements as a pharmacist for the purposes of this section.

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Sec. 7. 18 V.S.A. § 4215a is amended to read:

§ 4215a. SALE OF SCHEDULE V DRUGS

(a) A duly licensed pharmacist may sell and dispense schedule V drugs only upon a practitioner’s signed and dated written prescription or upon a practitioner’s oral prescription which that is promptly reduced to writing by a pharmacist, of a licensed physician, dentist, or veterinarian, dated and signed by the person prescribing or, if an oral prescription, and dated by the pharmacist on with the date when on which it was written.

* * *
Sec. 8. 18 V.S.A. § 4216 is amended to read:

§ 4216. AUTHORIZED POSSESSION BY INDIVIDUALS

(a) A person to whom or for whose use any regulated drug has been
prescribed, sold, or dispensed, and the owner of any animal for which any such
drug has been prescribed, sold, or dispensed, may lawfully possess the same on
the condition that such drug was prescribed, sold, or dispensed by a physician,
dentist, pharmacist, or veterinarian practitioner licensed to practice in this State
or by a health care professional duly licensed under the laws of another state or
country wherein such person has a practice, and on the further condition that all amounts of the drug are retained in the lawful
container in which it was delivered to him or her by the person selling or
dispensing the same.

(b) Notwithstanding the requirement in subsection (a) of this section that a
regulated drug be retained in its original container, the individual to whom a
regulated drug was prescribed, dispensed, or sold by a physician, dentist,
practitioner or pharmacist licensed in Vermont or by a pharmacist or other
health care professional duly licensed in another state or country may maintain
up to a 14-day supply of the regulated drug outside the original container for
his or her own personal use if the following conditions are
met:

* * *
Sec. 9. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.