

# **WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE**

**2018 REGULAR SESSION**

**Committee Substitute**

**for**

**House Bill 4524**

(BY DELEGATES ELLINGTON, SUMMERS AND ROHRBACH)

[Reported February 23, 2018; Referred  
to the Committee on Health and Human Resources  
then the Judiciary.]



1 A BILL to amend and reenact §30-5-12b of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating  
2 to establishing guidelines for the substitution of certain biological pharmaceuticals by  
3 pharmacists; defining terms; providing for guidelines relating to substitution of  
4 interchangeable biological products; establishing communication requirements between  
5 the pharmacists and prescriber relating to substitution of interchangeable biological  
6 products; and requiring maintenance of records relating to biological products dispensed  
7 for at least two years.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

**ARTICLE 5. PHARMACISTS, PHARMACY TECHNICIANS, PHARMACY INTERNS  
AND PHARMACIES.**

**§30-5-4. Definitions.**

1 As used in this article:

2 (1) "Ambulatory health care facility" includes any facility defined in section one, article five-  
3 b, chapter sixteen of this code, that also has a pharmacy, offers pharmacist care, or is otherwise  
4 engaged in the practice of pharmacist care.

5 (2) "Active Ingredients" means chemicals, substances, or other components of articles  
6 intended for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation, treatment, or prevention of diseases in humans  
7 or animals or for use as nutritional supplements.

8 (3) "Administer" means the direct application of a drug to the body of a patient or research  
9 subject by injection, inhalation, ingestion or any other means.

10 (4) "Board" means the West Virginia Board of Pharmacy.

11 (5) "Board authorization" means a license, registration or permit issued under this article.

12 (6) "Biological product" has the meaning provided in 42 U.S.C. 262.

13 ~~(6)~~ (7) "Chain Pharmacy Warehouse" means a permanent physical location for drugs  
14 and/or devices that acts as a central warehouse and performs intracompany sales and transfers

15 of prescription drugs or devices to chain pharmacies, which are members of the same affiliated  
16 group, under common ownership and control.

17 ~~(7)~~ (8) "Charitable clinic pharmacy" means a clinic or facility organized as a not-for-profit  
18 corporation that has a pharmacy, offers pharmacist care, or is otherwise engaged in the practice  
19 of pharmacist care and dispenses its prescriptions free of charge to appropriately screened and  
20 qualified indigent patients.

21 ~~(8)~~ (9) "Collaborative pharmacy practice" is that practice of pharmacist care where one or  
22 more pharmacists have jointly agreed, on a voluntary basis, to work in conjunction with one or  
23 more physicians under written protocol where the pharmacist or pharmacists may perform certain  
24 patient care functions authorized by the physician or physicians under certain specified conditions  
25 and limitations.

26 ~~(9)~~ (10) "Collaborative pharmacy practice agreement" is a written and signed agreement,  
27 which is a physician directed approach, that is entered into between an individual physician or  
28 physician group, an individual pharmacist or pharmacists and an individual patient or the patient's  
29 authorized representative who has given informed consent that provides for collaborative  
30 pharmacy practice for the purpose of drug therapy management of a patient, which has been  
31 approved by the board, the Board of Medicine in the case of an allopathic physician or the West  
32 Virginia Board of Osteopathic Medicine in the case of an osteopathic physician.

33 ~~(10)~~ (11) "Common Carrier" means any person or entity who undertakes, whether directly  
34 or by any other arrangement, to transport property including prescription drugs for compensation.

35 ~~(11)~~ (12) "Component" means any active ingredient or added substance intended for use  
36 in the compounding of a drug product, including those that may not appear in such product.

37 ~~(12)~~ (13) "Compounding" means:

38 (A) The preparation, mixing, assembling, packaging or labeling of a drug or device:

39 (i) As the result of a practitioner's prescription drug order or initiative based on the  
40 practitioner/patient/pharmacist relationship in the course of professional practice for sale or  
41 dispensing; or

42 (ii) For the purpose of, or as an incident to, research, teaching or chemical analysis and  
43 not for sale or dispensing; and

44 (B) The preparation of drugs or devices in anticipation of prescription drug orders based  
45 on routine, regularly observed prescribing patterns.

46 ~~(13)~~ (14) "Deliver" or "delivery" means the actual, constructive or attempted transfer of a  
47 drug or device from one person to another, whether or not for a consideration.

48 ~~(14)~~ (15) "Device" means an instrument, apparatus, implement or machine, contrivance,  
49 implant or other similar or related article, including any component part or accessory, which is  
50 required under federal law to bear the label, "Caution: Federal or state law requires dispensing  
51 by or on the order of a physician."

52 ~~(15)~~ (16) "Digital Signature" means an electronic signature based upon cryptographic  
53 methods of originator authentication, and computed by using a set of rules and a set of parameters  
54 so that the identity of the signer and the integrity of the data can be verified.

55 ~~(16)~~ (17) "Dispense" or "dispensing" means the interpretation, evaluation, and  
56 implementation of a prescription drug order, including the preparation, verification and delivery of  
57 a drug or device to a patient or patient's agent in a suitable container appropriately labeled for  
58 subsequent administration to, or use by, a patient.

59 ~~(17)~~ (18) "Distribute" or "Distribution" means to sell, offer to sell, deliver, offer to deliver,  
60 broker, give away, or transfer a drug, whether by passage of title, physical movement, or both.

61 The term does not include:

62 (A) To dispense or administer;

63 (B) (i) Delivering or offering to deliver a drug by a common carrier in the usual course of  
64 business as a common carrier; or providing a drug sample to a patient by a practitioner licensed  
65 to prescribe such drug;

66 (ii) A health care professional acting at the direction and under the supervision of a  
67 practitioner; or the pharmacy of a hospital or of another health care entity that is acting at the  
68 direction of such a practitioner and that received such sample in accordance with the Prescription  
69 Drug Marketing Act and regulations to administer or dispense;

70 (iii) Intracompany sales.

71 ~~(18)~~ (19) "Drop shipment" means the sale of a prescription drug to a wholesale distributor  
72 by the manufacturer of the prescription drug or by that manufacturer's colicensed product partner,  
73 that manufacturer's third party logistics provider, that manufacturer's exclusive distributor, or by  
74 an authorized distributor of record that purchased the product directly from the manufacturer or  
75 from one of these entities whereby:

76 (A) The wholesale distributor takes title to but not physical possession of such prescription  
77 drug;

78 (B) The wholesale distributor invoices the pharmacy, pharmacy warehouse, or other  
79 person authorized by law to dispense or administer such drug; and

80 (C) The pharmacy, pharmacy warehouse or other person authorized by law to dispense  
81 or administer such drug receives delivery of the prescription drug directly from the manufacturer  
82 or from that manufacturer's colicensed product partner, that manufacturer's third party logistics  
83 provider, that manufacturer's exclusive distributor, or from an authorized distributor of record that  
84 purchased the product directly from the manufacturer or from one of these entities.

85 ~~(19)~~ (20) "Drug" means:

86 (A) Articles recognized as drugs by the United States Food and Drug Administration, or in  
87 any official compendium, or supplement;

88 (B) An article, designated by the board, for use in the diagnosis, cure, mitigation,  
89 treatment, or prevention of disease in humans or other animals;

90 (C) Articles, other than food, intended to affect the structure or any function of the body of  
91 human or other animals; and

92 (D) Articles intended for use as a component of any articles specified in paragraph (A),  
93 (B) or (C) of this subdivision.

94 ~~(20)~~ (21) "Drug regimen review" includes, but is not limited to, the following activities:

95 (A) Evaluation of the prescription drug orders and if available, patient records for:

96 (i) Known allergies;

97 (ii) Rational therapy-contraindications;

98 (iii) Reasonable dose and route of administration; and

99 (iv) Reasonable directions for use.

100 (B) Evaluation of the prescription drug orders and patient records for duplication of  
101 therapy.

102 (C) Evaluation of the prescription drug for interactions and/or adverse effects which may  
103 include, but are not limited to, any of the following:

104 (i) Drug-drug;

105 (ii) Drug-food;

106 (iii) Drug-disease; and

107 (iv) Adverse drug reactions.

108 (D) Evaluation of the prescription drug orders and if available, patient records for proper  
109 use, including overuse and underuse and optimum therapeutic outcomes.

110 ~~(24)~~ (22) "Drug therapy management" means the review of drug therapy regimens of  
111 patients by a pharmacist for the purpose of evaluating and rendering advice to a physician  
112 regarding adjustment of the regimen in accordance with the collaborative pharmacy practice

113 agreement. Decisions involving drug therapy management shall be made in the best interest of  
114 the patient. Drug therapy management is limited to:

115 (A) Implementing, modifying and managing drug therapy according to the terms of the  
116 collaborative pharmacy practice agreement;

117 (B) Collecting and reviewing patient histories;

118 (C) Obtaining and checking vital signs, including pulse, temperature, blood pressure and  
119 respiration;

120 (D) Ordering screening laboratory tests that are dose related and specific to the patient's  
121 medication or are protocol driven and are also specifically set out in the collaborative pharmacy  
122 practice agreement between the pharmacist and physician.

123 ~~(22)~~ (23) "Electronic data intermediary" means an entity that provides the infrastructure to  
124 connect a computer system, hand-held electronic device or other electronic device used by a  
125 prescribing practitioner with a computer system or other electronic device used by a pharmacy to  
126 facilitate the secure transmission of:

127 (A) An electronic prescription order;

128 (B) A refill authorization request;

129 (C) A communication; or

130 (D) Other patient care information.

131 ~~(23)~~ (24) "E-prescribing" means the transmission, using electronic media, of prescription  
132 or prescription-related information between a practitioner, pharmacist, pharmacy benefit manager  
133 or health plan as defined in 45 CFR §160.103, either directly or through an electronic data  
134 intermediary. E-prescribing includes, but is not limited to, two-way transmissions between the  
135 point of care and the pharmacist. E-prescribing may also be referenced by the terms "electronic  
136 prescription" or "electronic order".



137           ~~(24)~~ (25) “Electronic Signature” means an electronic sound, symbol, or process attached  
138 to or logically associated with a record and executed or adopted by a person with the intent to  
139 sign the record.

140           ~~(25)~~ (26) “Electronic transmission” means transmission of information in electronic form or  
141 the transmission of the exact visual image of a document by way of electronic equipment.

142           ~~(26)~~ (27) “Emergency medical reasons” include, but are not limited to, transfers of a  
143 prescription drug by one pharmacy to another pharmacy to alleviate a temporary shortage of a  
144 prescription drug; sales to nearby emergency medical services, i.e., ambulance companies and  
145 firefighting organizations in the same state or same marketing or service area, or nearby licensed  
146 practitioners of prescription drugs for use in the treatment of acutely ill or injured persons; and  
147 provision of minimal emergency supplies of prescription drugs to nearby nursing homes for use  
148 in emergencies or during hours of the day when necessary prescription drugs cannot be obtained.

149           ~~(27)~~ (28) “Exclusive distributor” means an entity that:

150           (A) Contracts with a manufacturer to provide or coordinate warehousing, wholesale  
151 distribution, or other services on behalf of a manufacturer and who takes title to that  
152 manufacturer’s prescription drug, but who does not have general responsibility to direct the sale  
153 or disposition of the manufacturer’s prescription drug; and

154           (B) Is licensed as a wholesale distributor under this article.

155           ~~(28)~~ (29) “FDA” means the Food and Drug Administration, a federal agency within the  
156 United States Department of Health and Human Services.

157           ~~(29)~~ (30) “Health care entity” means a person that provides diagnostic, medical,  
158 pharmacist care, surgical, dental treatment, or rehabilitative care but does not include a wholesale  
159 distributor.

160           ~~(30)~~ (31) “Health information” means any information, whether oral or recorded in a form  
161 or medium, that:

162 (A) Is created or received by a health care provider, health plan, public health authority,  
163 employer, life insurer, school or university, or health care clearinghouse, and

164 (B) Relates to the past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition of an  
165 individual; or the past, present, or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual.

166 ~~(31)~~ (32) "HIPAA" is the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996  
167 (Public Law 104-191).

168 ~~(32)~~ (33) "Immediate container" means a container and does not include package liners.

169 ~~(33)~~ (34) "Individually identifiable health information" is information that is a subset of  
170 health information, including demographic information collected from an individual and is created  
171 or received by a health care provider, health plan, employer, or health care clearinghouse; and  
172 relates to the past, present, or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual; the  
173 provision of health care to an individual; or the past, present, or future payment for the provision  
174 of health care to an individual; and that identifies the individual; or with respect to which there is  
175 a reasonable basis to believe the information can be used to identify the individual.

176 ~~(34)~~ (35) "Intracompany sales" means any transaction between a division, subsidiary,  
177 parent, and/or affiliated or related company under the common ownership and control of a  
178 corporate or other legal business entity.

179 (36) "Interchangeable biological product" means a biological product that the federal food  
180 and drug administration has:

181 (A) licensed; and

182 (B) (i) determined meets the standards for interchangeability pursuant to 42 U.S.C.  
183 262(k)(4); or

184 (ii) determined is therapeutically equivalent as set forth in the latest edition of or  
185 supplement to the federal food and drug administration's approved drug products with therapeutic  
186 equivalence evaluations.

187           ~~(35)~~ (37) “Label” means a display of written, printed, or graphic matter upon the immediate  
188 container of any drug or device.

189           ~~(36)~~ (38) “Labeling” means the process of preparing and affixing a label to a drug container  
190 exclusive, however, of a labeling by a manufacturer, packer or distributor of a nonprescription  
191 drug or commercially packaged prescription drug or device.

192           ~~(37)~~ (39) “Long-Term care facility” means a nursing home, retirement care, mental care,  
193 or other facility or institution that provides extended health care to resident patients.

194           ~~(38)~~ (40) “Mail-order pharmacy” means a pharmacy, regardless of its location, which  
195 dispenses greater than twenty-five percent prescription drugs via the mail or other delivery  
196 services.

197           ~~(39)~~ (41) “Manufacturer” means any person who is engaged in manufacturing, preparing,  
198 propagating, processing, packaging, repackaging or labeling of a prescription drug, whether within  
199 or outside this state.

200           ~~(40)~~ (42) “Manufacturing” means the production, preparation, propagation or processing  
201 of a drug or device, either directly or indirectly, by extraction from substances of natural origin or  
202 independently by means of chemical or biological synthesis and includes any packaging or  
203 repackaging of the substance or substances or labeling or relabeling of its contents and the  
204 promotion and marketing of the drugs or devices. Manufacturing also includes the preparation  
205 and promotion of commercially available products from bulk compounds for resale by pharmacies,  
206 practitioners or other persons.

207           ~~(41)~~ (43) “Medical order” means a lawful order of a practitioner that may or may not include  
208 a prescription drug order.

209           ~~(42)~~ (44) “Medication therapy management” is a distinct service or group of services that  
210 optimize medication therapeutic outcomes for individual patients. Medication therapy  
211 management services are independent of, but can occur in conjunction with, the provision of a

212 medication or a medical device. Medication therapy management encompasses a broad range of  
213 professional activities and responsibilities within the licensed pharmacist's scope of practice.

214 These services may include the following, according to the individual needs of the patient:

215 (A) Performing or obtaining necessary assessments of the patient's health status pertinent  
216 to medication therapy management;

217 (B) Optimize medication use, performing medication therapy, and formulating  
218 recommendations for patient medication care plans;

219 (C) Developing therapeutic recommendations, to resolve medication related problems;

220 (D) Monitoring and evaluating the patient's response to medication therapy, including  
221 safety and effectiveness;

222 (E) Performing a comprehensive medication review to identify, resolve, and prevent  
223 medication-related problems, including adverse drug events;

224 (F) Documenting the care delivered and communicating essential information to the  
225 patient's primary care providers;

226 (G) Providing verbal education and training designed to enhance patient understanding  
227 and appropriate use of his or her medications;

228 (H) Providing information, support services and resources designed to enhance patient  
229 adherence with his or her medication therapeutic regimens;

230 (I) Coordinating and integrating medication therapy management services within the  
231 broader health care management services being provided to the patient; and

232 (J) Such other patient care services as may be allowed by law.

233 ~~(43)~~ (45) "Misbranded" means a drug or device that has a label that is false or misleading  
234 in any particular; or the label does not bear the name and address of the manufacturer, packer,  
235 or distributor and does not have an accurate statement of the quantities of the active ingredients  
236 in the case of a drug; or the label does not show an accurate monograph for prescription drugs.

237           ~~(44)~~ (46) “Nonprescription drug” means a drug which may be sold without a prescription  
238 and which is labeled for use by the consumer in accordance with the requirements of the laws  
239 and rules of this state and the federal government.

240           ~~(45)~~ (47) “Normal distribution channel” means a chain of custody for a prescription drug  
241 that goes directly or by drop shipment, from a manufacturer of the prescription drug, the  
242 manufacturer’s third-party logistics provider, or the manufacturer’s exclusive distributor to:

243           (A) A wholesale distributor to a pharmacy to a patient or other designated persons  
244 authorized by law to dispense or administer such prescription drug to a patient;

245           (B) A wholesale distributor to a chain pharmacy warehouse to that chain pharmacy  
246 warehouse’s intracompany pharmacy to a patient or other designated persons authorized by law  
247 to dispense or administer such prescription drug to a patient;

248           (C) A chain pharmacy warehouse to that chain pharmacy warehouse’s intracompany  
249 pharmacy to a patient or other designated persons authorized by law to dispense or administer  
250 such prescription drug to a patient;

251           (D) A pharmacy or to other designated persons authorized by law to dispense or  
252 administer such prescription drug to a patient; or

253           (E) As prescribed by the board’s legislative rules.

254           ~~(46)~~ (48) “Patient counseling” means the communication by the pharmacist of information,  
255 as prescribed further in the rules of the board, to the patient to improve therapy by aiding in the  
256 proper use of drugs and devices.

257           ~~(47)~~ (49) “Pedigree” means a statement or record in a written form or electronic form,  
258 approved by the board, that records each wholesale distribution of any given prescription drug  
259 (excluding veterinary prescription drugs), which leaves the normal distribution channel.

260           ~~(48)~~ (50) “Person” means an individual, corporation, partnership, association or any other  
261 legal entity, including government.

262           ~~(49)~~ (51) “Pharmacist” means an individual currently licensed by this state to engage in  
263 the practice of pharmacist care.

264           ~~(50)~~ (52) “Pharmacist Care” means the provision by a pharmacist of patient care activities,  
265 with or without the dispensing of drugs or devices, intended to achieve outcomes related to the  
266 cure or prevention of a disease, elimination or reduction of a patient’s symptoms, or arresting or  
267 slowing of a disease process and as provided for in section ten.

268           ~~(54)~~ (53) “Pharmacist-in-charge” means a pharmacist currently licensed in this state who  
269 accepts responsibility for the operation of a pharmacy in conformance with all laws and legislative  
270 rules pertinent to the practice of pharmacist care and the distribution of drugs and who is  
271 personally in full charge of the pharmacy and pharmacy personnel.

272           ~~(52)~~ (54) “Pharmacist’s scope of practice pursuant to the collaborative pharmacy practice  
273 agreement” means those duties and limitations of duties placed upon the pharmacist by the  
274 collaborating physician, as jointly approved by the board and the Board of Medicine or the West  
275 Virginia Board of Osteopathic Medicine.

276           ~~(53)~~ (55) “Pharmacy” means any place within this state where drugs are dispensed and  
277 pharmacist care is provided and any place outside of this state where drugs are dispensed and  
278 pharmacist care is provided to residents of this state.

279           ~~(54)~~ (56) “Pharmacy Intern” or “Intern” means an individual who is currently licensed to  
280 engage in the practice of pharmacist care while under the supervision of a pharmacist.

281           ~~(55)~~ (57) “Pharmacy related primary care” means the pharmacist’s activities in patient  
282 education, health promotion, selection and use of over the counter drugs and appliances and  
283 referral or assistance with the prevention and treatment of health related issues and diseases.

284           ~~(56)~~ (58) “Pharmacy Technician” means a person registered with the board to practice  
285 certain tasks related to the practice of pharmacist care as permitted by the board.

286 ~~(57)~~ (59) "Physician" means an individual currently licensed, in good standing and without  
287 restrictions, as an allopathic physician by the West Virginia Board of Medicine or an osteopathic  
288 physician by the West Virginia Board of Osteopathic Medicine.

289 ~~(58)~~ (60) "Practice of telepharmacy" means the provision of pharmacist care by properly  
290 licensed pharmacists located within United States jurisdictions through the use of  
291 telecommunications or other technologies to patients or their agents at a different location that  
292 are located within United States jurisdictions.

293 ~~(59)~~ (61) "Practitioner" means an individual authorized by a jurisdiction of the United States  
294 to prescribe drugs in the course of professional practices, as allowed by law.

295 ~~(60)~~ (62) "Prescription drug" means any human drug required by federal law or regulation  
296 to be dispensed only by prescription, including finished dosage forms and active ingredients  
297 subject to section 503(b) of the federal food, drug and cosmetic act.

298 ~~(64)~~ (63) "Prescription or prescription drug order" means a lawful order from a practitioner  
299 for a drug or device for a specific patient, including orders derived from collaborative pharmacy  
300 practice, where a valid patient-practitioner relationship exists, that is communicated to a  
301 pharmacist in a pharmacy.

302 ~~(62)~~ (64) "Product Labeling" means all labels and other written, printed, or graphic matter  
303 upon any article or any of its containers or wrappers, or accompanying such article.

304 ~~(63)~~ (65) "Repackage" means changing the container, wrapper, quantity, or product  
305 labeling of a drug or device to further the distribution of the drug or device.

306 ~~(64)~~ (66) "Repackager" means a person who repackages.

307 ~~(65)~~ (67) "Therapeutic equivalence" means drug products classified as therapeutically  
308 equivalent can be substituted with the full expectation that the substituted product will produce  
309 the same clinical effect and safety profile as the prescribed product which contain the same active  
310 ingredient(s); dosage form and route of administration; and strength.

311 ~~(66)~~ (68) “Third-party logistics provider” means a person who contracts with a prescription  
312 drug manufacturer to provide or coordinate warehousing, distribution or other services on behalf  
313 of a manufacturer, but does not take title to the prescription drug or have general responsibility to  
314 direct the prescription drug’s sale or disposition. A third-party logistics provider shall be licensed  
315 as a wholesale distributor under this article and, in order to be considered part of the normal  
316 distribution channel, shall also be an authorized distributor of record.

317 ~~(67)~~ (69) “Valid patient-practitioner relationship” means the following have been  
318 established:

319 (A) A patient has a medical complaint;

320 (B) A medical history has been taken;

321 (C) A face-to-face physical examination adequate to establish the medical complaint has  
322 been performed by the prescribing practitioner or in the instances of telemedicine through  
323 telemedicine practice approved by the appropriate practitioner board; and

324 (D) Some logical connection exists between the medical complaint, the medical history,  
325 and the physical examination and the drug prescribed.

326 ~~(68)~~ (70) “Wholesale distribution” and “wholesale distributions” means distribution of  
327 prescription drugs, including directly or through the use of a third-party logistics provider or any  
328 other situation in which title, ownership or control over the prescription drug remains with one  
329 person or entity but the prescription drug is brought into this state by another person or entity on  
330 his, her or its behalf, to persons other than a consumer or patient, but does not include:

331 (A) Intracompany sales, as defined in subdivision thirty-four of this subsection;

332 (B) The purchase or other acquisition by a hospital or other health care entity that is a  
333 member of a group purchasing organization of a drug for its own use from the group purchasing  
334 organization or from other hospitals or health care entities that are members of such  
335 organizations;



336 (C) The sale, purchase or trade of a drug or an offer to sell, purchase or trade a drug by a  
337 charitable organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal Revenue Code  
338 of 1986 to a nonprofit affiliate of the organization to the extent otherwise permitted by law;

339 (D) The sale, purchase or trade of a drug or an offer to sell, purchase or trade a drug  
340 among hospitals or other health care entities that are under common control. For purposes of this  
341 article, "common control" means the power to direct or cause the direction of the management  
342 and policies of a person or an organization, whether by ownership of stock, voting rights, by  
343 contract, or otherwise;

344 (E) The sale, purchase or trade of a drug or an offer to sell, purchase or trade a drug for  
345 "emergency medical reasons" for purposes of this article includes transfers of prescription drugs  
346 by a retail pharmacy to another retail pharmacy to alleviate a temporary shortage, except that the  
347 gross dollar value of such transfers shall not exceed five percent of the total prescription drug  
348 sales revenue of either the transferor or transferee pharmacy during any twelve consecutive  
349 month period;

350 (F) The sale, purchase or trade of a drug, an offer to sell, purchase, or trade a drug or the  
351 dispensing of a drug pursuant to a prescription;

352 (G) The distribution of drug samples by manufacturers' representatives or distributors'  
353 representatives, if the distribution is permitted under federal law [21 U. S. C. 353(d)];

354 (H) Drug returns by a pharmacy or chain drug warehouse to wholesale drug distributor or  
355 the drug's manufacturer; or

356 (J) The sale, purchase or trade of blood and blood components intended for transfusion.

357 ~~(69)~~ (71) "Wholesale drug distributor" or "wholesale distributor" means any person or entity  
358 engaged in wholesale distribution of prescription drugs, including, but not limited to,  
359 manufacturers, repackers, own-label distributors, jobbers, private-label distributors, brokers,  
360 warehouses, including manufacturers' and distributors' warehouses, chain drug warehouses and  
361 wholesale drug warehouses, independent wholesale drug traders, prescription drug repackagers,

362 physicians, dentists, veterinarians, birth control and other clinics, individuals, hospitals, nursing  
363 homes and/or their providers, health maintenance organizations and other health care providers,  
364 and retail and hospital pharmacies that conduct wholesale distributions, including, but not limited  
365 to, any pharmacy distributor as defined in this section. A wholesale drug distributor shall not  
366 include any for hire carrier or person or entity hired solely to transport prescription drugs.

**§30-5-12c. Substitution of biological product.**

1 (a) Except as limited by subsection (b) and unless instructed otherwise by the purchaser,  
2 a pharmacist who receives a prescription for a specific biological product may select a less  
3 expensive interchangeable biological product. *Provided*, That the pharmacist shall provide notice  
4 to the patient or the patient's designee regarding the selection of a less expensive  
5 interchangeable biological product.

6 (b) If, in the professional opinion of the prescriber, it is medically necessary that an  
7 equivalent drug product or interchangeable biological product not be selected, the prescriber may  
8 so indicate by certifying that the specific brand-name drug product prescribed or the specific  
9 brand-name biological product prescribed is medically necessary for that particular patient. In the  
10 case of a prescription transmitted orally, the prescriber must expressly indicate to the pharmacist  
11 that the specific brand-name drug product prescribed or the specific biological product prescribed  
12 is medically necessary.

13 (c) (1) Within 5 business days following the dispensing of a biological product, the  
14 dispensing pharmacist or the pharmacist's designee shall communicate the specific product  
15 provided to the patient, including the name of the product and the manufacturer, to the prescriber  
16 through any of the following electric records systems:

17 (A) an interoperable electronic medical records system;

18 (B) an electronic prescribing technology;

19 (C) a pharmacy benefit management system; or

20 (D) a pharmacy record.

21           (2) Communication through an electronic records system as described in subsection (3)(a)  
22 is presumed to provide notice to the prescriber.

23           (3) If the pharmacist is unable to communicate pursuant to an electronic records system,  
24 the pharmacist shall communicate to the prescriber which biological product was dispensed to  
25 the patient using facsimile, telephone, electronic transmission, or other prevailing means.

26           (4) Communication is not required under this subsection when:

27           (A) there is no federal food and drug administration approved interchangeable biological  
28 product for the product prescribed; or

29           (B) a refill prescription is not changed from the product dispensed on the prior filling of the  
30 prescription.

31           (d) The pharmacist shall maintain a record of the biological product dispensed for at least  
32 2 years.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to provide definitions for biological and biosimilar products and clarify when a pharmacist may substitute a prescribed biological product.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.