

SESSION OF 2026

**SUPPLEMENTAL NOTE ON SENATE BILL NO. 431**

As Recommended by Senate Committee on  
Public Health and Welfare

**Brief\***

SB 431 would amend the Pharmacy Act (Act) to include provisions regarding the remote practice of pharmacy.

***Definitions***

The bill would define the following terms:

- “Employ” would mean to suffer or permit to work;
- “Employing pharmacy” would mean a pharmacy that employs a remote worker and receives tangible work product from such remote worker;
- “Remote practice of pharmacy” or “remote practice” would mean the practice of pharmacy conducted at any location other than an employing pharmacy;
- “Remote worker” would mean a pharmacist, pharmacist intern, or pharmacy technician who is engaged in the remote practice of pharmacy; and
- “Pharmacy intern” would mean one of the following:
  - A student currently enrolled in and in good standing with an accredited pharmacy program;

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\*Supplemental notes are prepared by the Legislative Research Department and do not express legislative intent. The supplemental note and fiscal note for this bill may be accessed on the Internet at <https://klrd.gov/>

- A graduate of an accredited pharmacy program serving an internship; or
- A graduate of a pharmacy program located outside of the United States that is not accredited and who has successfully passed equivalency examinations approved by the Board of Pharmacy (Board).

### ***Remote Practice of Pharmacy***

The bill would permit any pharmacy to employ a remote worker to engage in the remote practice of pharmacy subject to meeting all the requirements of the Act.

### ***Notice of Remote Work***

The Act would require that the pharmacist-in-charge display a notice of remote work on the premises if the pharmacy employs remote workers.

### ***Records***

The Act would establish the types and contents of records to be maintained, the custodian of such records, and retention period of such records that must be maintained by the pharmacy. The Pharmacy Owner and Pharmacist-in-Charge would be responsible for ensuring that any record documentation related to Pharmacy Interns and Pharmacy Technicians was maintained at the pharmacy.

### ***Remote Practice Area Requirements***

The Act would require of each Pharmacy Owner, Pharmacist-in-Charge, and remote worker engaged in the remote practice of pharmacy to ensure the following:

- Each remote practice area is free from third-party interference or observation;

- Each remote work device used to engage in the remote practice of pharmacy would:
  - Be provided and maintained by the employing pharmacy;
  - Be configured and properly equipped to engage in the remote practice of pharmacy and be secure from unauthorized access;
  - Have the ability to maintain all prescription and patient information in a manner that protects the integrity and confidentiality of such information; and
  - All communication to any third-party outside the employing pharmacy is made on a remote work device.

#### *Written Policy and Procedure Manual*

The Act would establish the requirement for a written policy and procedure manual for each pharmacy and Pharmacist-in-Charge that employ remote workers, the required contents of such manual, and the requirements for the manual to be updated and maintained by the Pharmacist-in-Charge at least annually with the documentation of each review maintained at the pharmacy.

The Act would require that the policy and procedure manual contain the following:

- Procedures for the operation of the remote practice of pharmacy;
- Maintenance of security for remote work devices;
- Procedures to ensure that the remote practice of pharmacy is conducted in a manner in which patient privacy and confidentiality are maintained, including provisions that patient information would not:

- Be printed at a remote practice area;
  - Exist in any nonelectronic format at a remote practice area; and
  - Exist in any electronic format except on a remote work device that complies with the provisions of the Act;
- An acknowledgment that a physical or virtual inspection may be conducted by the Board or the employing pharmacy at any location where each remote worker engages in remote practice;
  - Procedures for routine audits of a remote worker's activity;
  - Procedures to ensure compliance with an ongoing continuous quality improvement program, review of incident reports, and necessary training or education of remote workers in response to any incident;
  - Procedures to ensure that the employing pharmacy maintains an updated list of each remote worker engaged in the remote practice of pharmacy to include each remote worker's name and current contact information;
  - Procedures for any Pharmacist Intern or Pharmacy Technician engaged in the remote practice of pharmacy to contact a supervising pharmacist; and
  - Procedures for any Pharmacist Intern or Pharmacy Technician to follow if a Supervising Pharmacist is no longer able to supervise.

*Remote Practice of Pharmacy Exclusions*

The Act would not permit a pharmacist engaged in the remote practice of pharmacy to do any of the following:

- Handling or possessing any drug or device owned by the pharmacy;
- Packaging or prepackaging; and
- Compounding, dispensing, or labeling.

### ***Pharmacy Interns***

The Act would require that before a Pharmacy Intern could participate in the remote practice of pharmacy that they had completed their first year of pharmacy school in good standing. The Pharmacist-in-Charge would be responsible for verifying that the requirement had been met.

The bill would not permit the counting of hours engaged in remote practice by a Pharmacy Intern to count toward required intern hours unless the Supervising Pharmacist is continuously present and observing the intern by video and audio link.

### ***Pharmacy Technicians***

The Act would require that before a Pharmacy Technician could participate in the remote practice of pharmacy that they had completed the following education, experience, and training:

- At least 240 clock hours of training in the pharmacy either with the current Pharmacist-in-Charge or the Pharmacist-in-Charge's designee;
- An acknowledgment of understanding of the policy and procedure manual for the remote practice of pharmacy; and
- Documentation of passing a certification examination approved by the Board.

### ***Remote Practice of Pharmacy by Pharmacy Intern or Pharmacy Technician***

The bill would allow either a Pharmacy Intern or Pharmacy Technician working remotely to be supervised by a Pharmacist working at either the physical location or engaged in remote practice. The bill would exempt medical care facility pharmacies or medical care pharmacy personnel from compliance with this part of the Act.

A Pharmacist working remotely would only be permitted to supervise others working remotely and would be required to be in compliance with the Technician-to-Pharmacist ratio of four to one or supervision of more than two Pharmacy Technicians who have not passed a certification exam.

The bill would permit either a Pharmacy Intern or Pharmacy Technician to perform the following while engaged in the remote practice of pharmacy:

- The prescription process; and
- Send communications and requests to prescribers through automated methods.

The bill would permit the following to be completed under supervision:

- Contact prescribers or prescriber offices;
- Contact patients for clarification of personal data and payment processing information; and
- Transfer a prescription.

### **Background**

The bill was introduced by the Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare at the request of a representative of the Kansas Association of Chain Drugstores.

### ***Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare***

At the Senate Committee hearing, **proponent** testimony was provided by the Executive Secretary of the Board and a representative of the Kansas Association of Chain Drugstores. The conferees testified that enactment of the bill would allow for the remote practice of pharmacy, be consistent with pharmacy laws and regulations in other states, and align Kansas with the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Model Pharmacy Act.

No other testimony was provided.

### **Fiscal Information**

According to the fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget on the bill, the Board of Pharmacy indicates enactment of the bill would not have a fiscal effect.

Health; health care; Practice of Pharmacy; remote practice of pharmacy