HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Subject: Pharmacy

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Overview

This bill amends various section of the pharmacy practice act.

Section

- Pharmacy technician. Amends § 151.01, subd. 15a. Modifies the definition of pharmacy technician. Provides that a pharmacy technician is a person who has been trained to perform pharmacy tasks that do not require the professional judgment of a licensed pharmacist. Prohibits pharmacy technicians from performing tasks reserved to a licensed pharmacist.
- **Practice of pharmacy.** Amends § 151.01, subd. 27. Allows pharmacists to administer flu vaccines to individuals age six and older and all other vaccines to patients age 13 and older. (Current law allows administration of flu vaccine to individuals age 10 and older and all other vaccines to patients age 18 and older.)

Requires the pharmacist to check the Minnesota Immunization Information Connection prior to administration of vaccines, except when giving a flu shot to individuals age nine and older. Strikes the requirement to notify the patient's primary physician.

- **State Board of Pharmacy.** Amends § 151.02. Increases the membership on the board to three public members (currently there are two) and six pharmacists who actively practice (currently there are five).
- 4 **Pharmacy technician.** Amends § 151.102.
 - **Subd. 1. General.** Clarifies that a pharmacy technician can perform tasks that are not reserved to, and do not require the professional judgment of, a licensed pharmacist. Changes the number of pharmacy technicians that can be supervised by a pharmacist

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Section

from two to four. Allows the board to adopt rules to set ratios of pharmacists to technicians greater than four to one.

Subd. 2. Waivers by board permited. Allows the board to issue waivers to pharmacists who request permission to supervise more than four pharmacy technicians.

Subd. 3. Registration fee. No change.

Definitions. Amends § 151.58, subd. 2. Adds board and care homes that provide centralized storage of medications to the definition of "health care facility" for purposes of automated drug distribution systems.