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Overview

This bill authorizes pharmacists to prescribe tobacco cessation medications, opiate antagonists, and travel medications. The bill requires the Board of Pharmacy to develop standardized protocols to govern prescribing by pharmacists.

Section

- 1** **Practitioner.** Amends § 151.01, subd. 23. Includes a pharmacist authorized to prescribe tobacco cessation medications excluding bupropion, opiate antagonists, and travel medications in the definition of “practitioner” for purposes of sections 151.216 (prescribing by pharmacists), 151.252, subdivision 3 (requirement that drug manufacturers report honoraria and other payments to practitioners), and 151.461 (prohibition on gifts to practitioners by manufacturers and wholesalers).
- 2** **Practice of pharmacy.** Amends § 151.01, subd. 27. Includes the prescribing by pharmacists of tobacco cessation medications excluding bupropion, opiate antagonists, and travel medications in the definition of the “practice of pharmacy.”
- 3** **Travel medications.** Amends § 151.101, by adding subd. 42. Provides a definition of “travel medication.”
- 4** **Pharmacist prescribing.** Adds § 151.216.
 - Subd. 1. Tobacco cessation medications, opiate antagonists, and travel medications.** (a) Authorizes a pharmacist to prescribe tobacco cessation medications excluding bupropion, opiate antagonists to treat overdoses, and travel medications.

Section

- (b) Requires the pharmacist to provide the patient with a written record of the product or medication prescribed.
- (c) Prohibits the pharmacist from delegating the prescribing of the product or medication, but allows a registered pharmacist intern to prepare a prescription for the product or medication, provided the prescription is not processed or dispensed until it is reviewed, approved, and signed by the pharmacist.
- (d) Requires the Board of Pharmacy, in consultation with other entities, to develop standardized protocols that pharmacists must follow in order to prescribe.
- (e) States that nothing in this subdivision prohibits a pharmacist from participating in the initiation, management, modification, and discontinuation of therapy through a protocol under this section, or section 151.37, subd. 2 (practitioner may prescribe a drug without reference to a specific patient by directing a pharmacist or other specified professional to adhere to practice guideline or protocol) and subd. 13 (commissioner of health may designate a practitioner to enter in an opiate antagonist protocol with pharmacists).

Subd. 2. Insurance coverage. Provides that all state and federal laws governing insurance coverage of tobacco cessation medications excluding bupropion, opiate antagonists, and travel medications, and related services, apply when those products are prescribed by a pharmacist.