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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2725**

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**State of Washington                      64th Legislature                      2016 Regular Session**

**By** House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Rossetti, Kirby, Appleton, Ortiz-Self, and Jinkins)

READ FIRST TIME 02/02/16.

1            AN ACT Relating to the authority of pharmacists to dispense  
2            prescription drugs; and adding a new section to chapter 18.64 RCW.

3            BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.**    A new section is added to chapter 18.64  
5            RCW to read as follows:

6            (1) A pharmacist may dispense a prescription drug to a patient  
7            with an expired prescription if:

8            (a) Reasonable efforts to contact the prescribing practitioner  
9            have been made and were unsuccessful;

10           (b) The patient has been on a consistent drug therapy as  
11           demonstrated by records maintained by a pharmacy;

12           (c) The prescription drug is not a controlled substance;

13           (d) The amount of the drug dispensed does not exceed either a  
14           seven-day supply or the minimum packaging size that cannot be broken;  
15           and

16           (e) The original prescription does not indicate any type of  
17           restriction or limitation as annotated by the practitioner.

18           (2) A pharmacist may not dispense a particular prescription drug  
19           to the same patient without a valid prescription as described in  
20           subsection (1) of this section more than once in any twelve-month  
21           period.

1           (3) The pharmacist shall promptly notify the prescriber that his  
2 or her patient's expired prescription has been filled as soon as the  
3 prescriber is available.

4           (4) The provisions of this section do not:

5           (a) Expand or restrict the authority of the commission to adopt  
6 other limited exceptions that allow for the dispensing of  
7 prescription drugs by pharmacists without a prescription; or

8           (b) Limit the terms of a collaborative drug therapy agreement.

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