

SENATE BILL REPORT

SHB 1789

AS REPORTED BY COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & LONG-TERM CARE,  
MARCH 28, 1991

**Brief Description:** Concerning the filling of prescriptions written by out-of-state prescribers.

**SPONSORS:** House Committee on Health Care (originally sponsored by Representatives Braddock, Paris and Prentice).

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE**

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & LONG-TERM CARE**

**Majority Report:** Do pass.

Signed by Senators West, Chairman; L. Smith, Vice Chairman; Amondson, Johnson, L. Kreidler, Niemi, and Wojahn.

**Staff:** Suzanne Brown (786-7483)

**Hearing Dates:** March 27, 1991; March 28, 1991

**BACKGROUND:**

RCW 69.41.030 was amended in 1987 to place a six-month limit on prescription refills for legend drugs written by out-of-state authorized prescribers. Current Board of Pharmacy rules limit prescription refills for legend drugs written by any authorized prescriber to one year.

**SUMMARY:**

The six-month limit on prescription refills written by authorized out-of-state prescribers is removed. The obsolete nomenclature of podiatric physicians as "podiatrists" is corrected. The obsolete reference to the "marine hospital service" is repealed.

**Appropriation:** none

**Revenue:** none

**Fiscal Note:** none requested

**Effective Date:** The bill contains an emergency clause and takes effect immediately.

**TESTIMONY FOR:**

The current limitation on prescription refills written by out-of-state prescribers creates administrative and/or consumer expense and inconvenience. The removal of this limitation does not pose a threat to public health and safety.

**TESTIMONY AGAINST:** None

**TESTIFIED:** Joan Gaumer, MEDCO Containment Services, Inc. (pro);  
Lars Hennum, Pharmacists of Washington (pro); Don Williams,  
Board of Pharmacy (pro)