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SENATE BILL 5454

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State of Washington                      62nd Legislature                      2011 Regular Session

By Senators Keiser, Pflug, Pridemore, Parlette, Conway, and Becker

Read first time 01/26/11. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1            AN ACT Relating to administration of drugs by health care  
2 assistants; and amending RCW 18.135.130.

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

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.135.130 and 2009 c 43 s 3 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            (1) This section applies only to health care assistants certified  
7 in categories C or E by the department of health.

8            (2)(a) The administration of drugs by a health care assistant is  
9 restricted to oral, topical, rectal, otic, ophthalmic, or inhaled  
10 routes administered pursuant to a written order of a supervising health  
11 care practitioner. The drugs authorized for administration under this  
12 section are limited to the following:

13            (i) Over-the-counter drugs that may be administered to a patient  
14 while in the care of a health care practitioner are: Benadryl,  
15 acetaminophen, ibuprofen, aspirin, neosporin, polysporin, normal  
16 saline, colace, kenalog, and hydrocortisone cream;

17            (ii) Nonover-the-counter unit dose legend drugs that may be  
18 administered to a patient while in the care of a health care  
19 practitioner are: Kenalog, hydrocortisone cream, reglan, compazine,

1 zofran, bactroban, albuterol, xopenex, silvadene, gastrointestinal  
2 cocktail, fluoride, lmx cream, emla, lat, optic dyes, oral contrast,  
3 and oxygen.

4 ~~(b) ((Only health care assistants who are certified as category C~~  
5 ~~or E assistants by the department of health may administer the oral~~  
6 ~~drugs specified in (a) of this subsection.~~

7 ~~(e))~~ Health care assistants authorized to administer certain over-  
8 the-counter and legend drugs under ~~((a) of))~~ this ~~((subsection))~~  
9 section must demonstrate initial and ongoing competency to administer  
10 specific drugs as determined by the health care practitioner.

11 ~~((2))~~ (3) A health care practitioner must administer a medication  
12 if:

13 (a) A patient is unable to physically ingest or safely apply a  
14 medication independently or with assistance; or

15 (b) A patient is unable to indicate an awareness that he or she is  
16 taking a medication.

17 ~~((3))~~ (4) This section expires July 1, 2013.

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