



ARIZONA STATE SENATE
Fifty-Second Legislature, Second Regular Session

FINAL AMENDED
FACT SHEET FOR H.B. 2109

pharmacists; licensure

Purpose

Removes the requirement that a pharmacist licensed in another jurisdiction hold the license in good standing for at least one year before being eligible to receive a license in Arizona without a pharmacist licensure examination. Requires an applicant for initial licensure apply for a fingerprint clearance card instead of submitting fingerprints for a criminal background check.

Background

Established in 1903, the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy (Board) regulates the practice of pharmacy and the distribution, sale and storage of prescription medications, prescriptive devices and nonprescription medications. The Board consists of nine Governor-appointed members, including six pharmacists, one pharmacy technician and two consumer members who are appointed for five-year terms and are eligible to receive \$200 a day in compensation. According to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, the budget includes \$2,020,500 and 18 FTE Positions from the Arizona State Board of Pharmacy Fund in FY 2016 for the operating budget.

Current statute allows the Board to license as a pharmacist, without a pharmacist licensure examination, a person who is licensed as a pharmacist by a pharmacist licensure examination in some other jurisdiction if that person: 1) produces satisfactory evidence to the Board of having had the required secondary and professional education and training; 2) is possessed of good morals as demanded of applicants for licensure and re-licensure; 3) presents proof to the Board's satisfaction of licensure by a pharmacist licensure examination required by the Board and that the applicant has held the license in good standing for at least one year and has passed a national licensure examination; 4) presents proof to the Board's satisfaction that any other license granted to the applicant by any other jurisdiction has not been suspended, revoked or otherwise restricted for any reason, with exceptions as listed; and 5) passes a Board-approved jurisprudence examination (A.R.S. § 32-1922).

There is no anticipated fiscal impact to the state General Fund associated with this legislation.

Provisions

1. Removes the requirement that a pharmacist licensed in another jurisdiction hold the license in good standing for at least one year before being eligible to receive a license in Arizona without a pharmacist licensure examination.

2. Requires each applicant for initial licensure apply for a fingerprint clearance card, instead of submitting fingerprints for the purpose of obtaining a state and federal criminal background check.
3. Requires the applicant, if issued a valid fingerprint clearance card, to submit the valid fingerprint clearance card to the Board with the completed application.
4. Allows an applicant who is denied a fingerprint clearance card to request that the Board consider the application for licensure despite the absence of a valid fingerprint clearance card.
5. Allows the Board, in its discretion, to approve an application for licensure despite the denial of a valid fingerprint clearance card if the Board determines that the applicant's criminal history information on which the denial was based does not alone disqualify the applicant from licensure.
6. Makes technical and conforming changes.
7. Becomes effective on the general effective date.

Amendments Adopted in Committee

1. Requires an applicant for initial licensure apply for a fingerprint clearance card instead of submitting fingerprints for the purpose of obtaining a background check.
2. Allows the Board to approve an application for licensure if an applicant was denied a fingerprint clearance card.
3. Makes technical and conforming changes.

Amendments Adopted in Committee of the Whole

- Makes a technical change.

House Action

Health	1/19/16	DP	6-0-0
3 rd Read	1/28/16		57-0-3
Final Read	5/6/16		54-0-6

Senate Action

HHS	3/16/16	DPA	6-0-1
3 rd Read	3/30/16		29-0-1

Signed by the Governor 5/17/16
Chapter 288

Prepared by Senate Research
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