



## **House Bill 188 Sponsor Testimony Representatives Nathan Manning and Steve Huffman**

### **Consult Agreements under H.B. 188**

According to House Bill 188, one or more pharmacists may enter into a consult agreement with one or more physicians authorized under the Revised Code to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery if all of the following conditions are met:

- Each physician has an ongoing physician-patient relationship with each patient whose drug therapy is being managed;
- The diagnosis for which each patient has been prescribed drug therapy is within the scope of each physician's practice; and
- Each pharmacist has training and experience related to the particular diagnosis for which drug therapy is prescribed.

Under a consult agreement, a pharmacist is authorized to manage drug therapy for treatment of specified diagnoses and diseases for each patient who is subject to the agreement. (See Lines 292-307)

You may also wonder what is specifically included in the consult agreement. The agreement shall be made in writing and include all of the following:

- The diagnoses and diseases being managed under the agreement, including whether each disease is primary or comorbid (existing simultaneously with and usually independently of another medical condition);
- Practice Protocols; and
- A description of the drug therapy management protocols.

Also, a consult agreement, or the portion of the agreement that applies to a particular patient, may be terminated by any of the following:

- A pharmacist who entered into the agreement;

- A physician who entered into the agreement;
- A patient whose drug therapy is being managed; or
- An individual who consented to the treatment on behalf of a patient or an individual authorized to act on behalf of a patient.

The pharmacist or physician who receives the notice of a patient's termination of the agreement shall provide written notice to every other pharmacist or physician who is a party to the agreement. A pharmacist or physician who terminates a consult agreement with regard to one or more patients shall provide written notice to all other pharmacists who entered into the agreement and to each individual who consented to treatment under the agreement. The termination of a consult agreement with regards to one or more patients shall be recorded by the pharmacist and physician in the medical records of each patient to whom the termination applies.

Lastly, a consult agreement is effective for two years and may be renewed if the conditions are met. A consult agreement does not permit a pharmacist to manage drug therapy prescribed by a physician who has not entered into the agreement.

Thank you Chair Gonzales, and we would be happy to answer any questions the committee may have.