

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

RS25634

This bill amends the Pharmacy Practice Act to enable prescriber-authorized substitution for drug products that are in the same therapeutic class and are expected to have a substantially equivalent therapeutic effect, provided certain conditions are met. Specifically, both the prescriber and patient must opt-in to the drug product substitution, and the substitution must intend to lower the cost to the patient. In addition, the pharmacist must notify the original prescriber when a substitution occurs.

FISCAL NOTE

This legislation will have no fiscal impact to the General Fund or the Board of Pharmacy's dedicated fund. It will have no fiscal impact because although this legislation allows prescribers and patients to opt-in to the authorized substitution, it does not require anyone to do so, nor does it compel any specific Board of Pharmacy action. In addition to prescriber and patient opt-in, the bill authorizes substitution only in instances in which this action will lower the cost to the patient, so it is expected that when opt-in occurs, patients and health plans will derive cost savings.

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DISCLAIMER: This statement of purpose and fiscal note are a mere attachment to this bill and prepared by a proponent of the bill. It is neither intended as an expression of legislative intent nor intended for any use outside of the legislative process, including judicial review (Joint Rule 18).