

2019 -- H 5549

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

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A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES

Introduced By: Representatives Vella-Wilkinson, Williams, Morin, Jackson, and
Carson

Date Introduced: February 27, 2019

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 5-19.1 of the General Laws entitled "Pharmacies" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **5-19.1-34. Pharmacists -- Contraceptives -- Prescribing.**

4 (a) In accordance with § 5-19.1-14 and adopted by the state board of pharmacy, a
5 pharmacist may prescribe and dispense hormonal contraceptive patches and self-administered
6 oral hormonal contraceptives to a person who is:

7 (1) At least eighteen (18) years of age, regardless of whether the person has evidence of a
8 previous prescription from a primary care practitioner or women's health care practitioner for a
9 hormonal contraceptive patch or self-administered oral hormonal contraceptive; or

10 (2) Under eighteen (18) years of age, only if the person has evidence of a previous
11 prescription from a primary care practitioner or women's health care practitioner for a hormonal
12 contraceptive patch or self-administered oral hormonal contraceptive.

13 (b) The state board of pharmacy shall adopt rules to establish, in consultation with the
14 Rhode Island medical board, the Rhode Island state board of nursing and the Rhode Island
15 department of health, and in consideration of guidelines established by the American Congress of
16 Obstetricians and Gynecologists standard procedures for the prescribing of hormonal
17 contraceptive patches and self-administered oral hormonal contraceptives by pharmacists.

18 (c) A pharmacist shall be required to:

19 (1) Complete a training program approved by the state board of pharmacy that is related

1 to prescribing hormonal contraceptive patches and self-administered oral hormonal
2 contraceptives;

3 (2) Provide a self-screening risk assessment tool that the patient must use prior to the
4 pharmacist's prescribing the hormonal contraceptive patch or self-administered oral hormonal
5 contraceptive;

6 (3) Refer the patient to the patient's primary care practitioner or women's health care
7 practitioner upon prescribing and dispensing the hormonal contraceptive patch or self-
8 administered oral hormonal contraceptive;

9 (4) Provide the patient with a written record of the hormonal contraceptive patch or self-
10 administered oral hormonal contraceptive prescribed and dispensed and advise the patient to
11 consult with a primary care practitioner or women's health care practitioner; and

12 (5) Dispense the hormonal contraceptive patch or self-administered oral hormonal
13 contraceptive to the patient as soon as practicable after the pharmacist issues the prescription.

14 (d) All state and federal laws governing insurance coverage of contraceptive drugs,
15 devices, products and services shall apply to hormonal contraceptive patches and self-
16 administered oral hormonal contraceptives prescribed by a pharmacist under this section.

17 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES

1 This act would authorize a pharmacist to prescribe and dispense hormonal contraceptive
2 patches and self-administered oral hormonal contraceptives, provided that the pharmacist has
3 completed a training program approved by the state board of pharmacy.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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