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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2021

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A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES

Introduced By: Senators Felag, and Cano

Date Introduced: February 05, 2021

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

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

3           **5-19.1-36. Prescription drug price savings.**

4           (a) When dispensing a prescription, a pharmacist shall advise the individual presenting the  
5 prescription of every substitute drug containing all the same active chemical ingredients of the same  
6 strength, quantity and dosage available at a lesser cost, unless ordered by the prescribing physician  
7 to dispense as brand name necessary on the prescription form.

8           (b) The provisions of this section shall not apply if the pharmacist is automatically charging  
9 the individual presenting the prescription with the lowest price active chemical ingredients of the  
10 same strength, quantity and dosage.

11          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

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1           This act would provide that pharmacists shall disclose lesser price drug substitutions unless  
2 directed otherwise by the doctor. It would also exempt pharmacists automatically charging the  
3 lowest available price.

4           This act would take effect upon passage.

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