

By: Representative Read

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 1607

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 73-21-83, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
2 TO PROVIDE THAT CERTAIN LICENSED PHARMACISTS SHALL HAVE THEIR
3 PHARMACY DEGREES CONVERTED TO DOCTOR OF PHARMACY (PHARMD) DEGREES;
4 TO REQUIRE THOSE PERSONS TO OBTAIN CONTINUING EDUCATION IN CERTAIN
5 SUBJECTS BEFORE A SPECIFIED DATE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 73-21-83, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
8 amended as follows:

9 73-21-83. (1) The board shall be responsible for the
10 control and regulation of the practice of pharmacy, to include the
11 regulation of pharmacy externs or interns and pharmacist
12 technicians, in this state, the regulation of the wholesaler
13 distribution of drugs and devices as defined in Section 73-21-73,
14 and the distribution of sample drugs or devices by manufacturer's
15 distributors as defined in Section 73-21-73 by persons other than
16 the original manufacturer or distributor in this state.

17 (2) A license for the practice of pharmacy shall be obtained
18 by all persons before their engaging in the practice of pharmacy.
19 However, the provisions of this chapter shall not apply to
20 physicians, dentists, veterinarians, osteopaths or other
21 practitioners of the healing arts who are licensed under the laws
22 of the State of Mississippi and are authorized to dispense and
23 administer prescription drugs in the course of their professional
24 practice.

25 (3) The initial licensure fee shall be set by the board but
26 shall not exceed Two Hundred Dollars (\$200.00).

27 (4) All students actively enrolled in a professional school
28 of pharmacy accredited by the American Council on Pharmaceutical

29 Education who are making satisfactory progress toward graduation
30 and who act as an extern or intern under the direct supervision of
31 a pharmacist in a location permitted by the Board of Pharmacy must
32 obtain a pharmacy student registration before engaging in that
33 activity. The student registration fee shall be set by the board
34 but shall not exceed One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00).

35 (5) All persons licensed to practice pharmacy before July 1,
36 1991, by the State Board of Pharmacy under Section 73-21-89 shall
37 continue to be licensed under the provisions of Section 73-21-91.

38 (6) Any person who holds a license to practice pharmacy on
39 July 1, 2004, who is in good standing with the board, and who
40 received his or her bachelor's degree from a school or college of
41 pharmacy with a four- or five-year pharmacy program, shall have
42 his or her degree converted to a Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD)
43 degree. Not later than December 31, 2005, all of those persons
44 must obtain four (4) hours of live continuing education and four
45 (4) hours of regular continuing education in asthma, diabetes and
46 hypertension.

47 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
48 and after July 1, 2004.