

HB 987 -- Prescription Monitoring Program

Sponsor: Ward

Effective January 1, 2005, this bill establishes the Prescription Monitoring Program in the Department of Health and Senior Services. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Requires the program to monitor the prescribing and dispensing of all Schedule II through Schedule V controlled substances by all licensed professionals who prescribe or dispense these substances in Missouri;
- (2) Requires the dispenser to electronically submit to the department information for each prescription and specifies the frequency of the submissions;
- (3) Allows the department to issue a waiver to a dispenser who is unable to submit the required information electronically. If a waiver is obtained, a dispenser can submit the required information in paper format or by other approved means;
- (4) Requires all submitted prescription information to be confidential. Exceptions to this requirement include violations of law or breach of professional standards which result in an investigation and the submission or the release of prescription information to authorized persons;
- (5) Authorizes the release of non-personal, general information for statistical, educational, and research purposes;
- (6) Authorizes the department to contract with other state agencies or private vendors to implement the bill;
- (7) Requires the department to develop rules to implement the bill; and
- (8) Contains penalty provisions for dispensers and authorized persons who violate provisions of the bill.