

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4

As Engrossed: S2/20/17

A Bill

SENATE BILL 339

5 By: Senator J. Hutchinson
6 By: Representative Hammer
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING
10 PROGRAM TO MANDATE PRESCRIBERS CHECK THE PRESCRIPTION
11 DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM WHEN PRESCRIBING CERTAIN
12 MEDICATIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

16 TO AMEND THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING
17 PROGRAM TO MANDATE PRESCRIBERS CHECK THE
18 PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM WHEN
19 PRESCRIBING CERTAIN MEDICATIONS.
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 20-7-604(d), concerning the requirements
25 for the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, is amended to read as follows:

26 (d)(1) Practitioners Except as required in subdivision (d)(2) of this
27 section, practitioners are encouraged to access or check the information in
28 the controlled substance database created under this subchapter before
29 prescribing, dispensing, or administering medications.

30 (2)(A) A prescriber shall check the information in the
31 Prescription Drug Monitoring Program when prescribing:

32 (i) An opioid from Schedule II or Schedule III for
33 every time prescribing the medication to a patient; and

34 (ii) A benzodiazepine medication for the first time
35 prescribing the medication to a patient.

36 (B) A licensing board that licenses practitioners who have



1 the authority to prescribe shall adopt rules requiring the practitioners to
2 check the information in the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program as
3 described in subsection (d) of this section.

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5 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 20-7-611, concerning unlawful acts and
6 penalties regarding the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, is amended to
7 add an additional subsection to read as follows:

8 (i) A practitioner who purposely fails to access the Prescription Drug
9 Monitoring Program as required by § 20-7-604(d) is subject to disciplinary
10 action by the licensing board of the practitioner.

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12 /s/J. Hutchinson
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