

**HB127 INTRODUCED**



1 HB127

2 CXSZUJQ-1

3 By Representatives Brown, Oliver, Moore (P), Fidler, Lamb,  
4 DuBose, Rehm, Bolton, Estes, Barnes, Sells, Standridge,  
5 Marques, Mooney, Yarbrough

6 RFD: Health

7 First Read: 13-Jan-26

8 PFD: 07-Jan-26



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## 4     SYNOPSIS:

5                     Existing law prohibits the State Board of  
6     Medical Examiners and the Medical Licensure Commission  
7     from taking action against the license of a physician  
8     when the physician recommends or prescribes a medical  
9     treatment that is off-label.

10                  This bill would give pharmacists the same  
11     protection by prohibiting the Board of Pharmacy from  
12     suspending, revoking, or refusing to renew the license  
13     of a pharmacist who either recommends the off-label use  
14     of a drug or fills a prescription for the off-label use  
15     of a drug.

16                  This bill would prohibit any entity that  
17     furnishes pharmacy services from terminating or taking  
18     adverse action against a pharmacist for recommending  
19     the off-label use of a drug or filling a prescription  
20     for the off-label use of a drug, and would provide a  
21     civil action for a pharmacist who is so terminated or  
22     disciplined.

23                  This bill would prohibit a pharmacy benefits  
24     manager from taking any action against a pharmacist or  
25     his or her employing pharmacy in retaliation for  
26     recommending, or filling a prescription for, the  
27     off-label use of a drug.

28                  This bill would also permit over-the-counter



## **HB127 INTRODUCED**

29 sale of both Ivermectin and Hydroxychloroquine.

A BILL

TO BE ENTITLED

## AN ACT

36 Relating to drug dispensing; to prohibit the State  
37 Board of Pharmacy or an employer from taking action against a  
38 pharmacist who recommends the off-label use of a drug or who  
39 dispenses a drug for off-label use on the prescription of a  
40 health care professional; to provide a cause of action against  
41 an employer who takes action against a pharmacist for  
42 recommending or dispensing a drug for off-label use; to  
43 provide an exception; to prohibit a pharmacy benefits manager  
44 from retaliating against a pharmacist or the employing  
45 pharmacy for recommending or dispensing a drug for off-label  
46 use; and to permit the sale of Ivermectin and  
47 Hydroxychloroquine without a prescription.

48 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

49                   Section 1. (a) For the purposes of this section, the  
50 following terms have the following meanings:

51 (1) BOARD. The State Board of Pharmacy.

52 (2) EMPLOYER. Any person that owns or manages a  
53 pharmacy as defined in Section 34-23-1, Code of Alabama 1975,  
54 and which retains, supervises, or terminates pharmacists.

55 (3) HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL. Any of the following  
56 individuals:



57                   a. A physician licensed to practice medicine in this  
58 state.

59                   b. A physician assistant licensed by the State Board of  
60 Medical Examiners of the State of Alabama.

61                   c. A certified registered nurse practitioner or a  
62 certified nurse midwife certified by the Board of Nursing.

63                   (4) LICENSE. The same meaning as defined in Section  
64 34-23-1, Code of Alabama 1975.

65                   (5) OFF-LABEL MEDICATION. The use of a drug, biological  
66 product, or device approved by the United States Food and Drug  
67 Administration (FDA) in any manner other than the use approved  
68 by the FDA.

69                   (b) The board may not revoke, suspend, fail to renew,  
70 or take any other adverse action against a pharmacist's  
71 license based solely on either of the following:

72                   (1) The pharmacist's recommendation of an off-label  
73 medication for the treatment of a disease, condition, or  
74 symptom.

75                   (2) The pharmacist's dispensing of a prescription of an  
76 off-label medication which is ordered by a health care  
77 professional.

78                   (c) (1) An employer may not terminate, discipline, or  
79 take any other adverse action against an employee pharmacist  
80 based solely on either of the following:

81                   a. The pharmacist's recommendation of an off-label  
82 medication for the treatment of a disease, condition, or  
83 symptom.

84                   b. The pharmacist's dispensing of a prescription of an

## HB127 INTRODUCED



85 off-label medication which is ordered by a health care  
86 professional.

87 (2)a. A pharmacist who is terminated or suffers adverse  
88 action by his or her employer for recommending or dispensing  
89 an off-label medication under subdivision (1) may bring an  
90 action for injunctive relief against the employer in the  
91 circuit court of the county in which the off-label medication  
92 was recommended or dispensed.

93 b. The court in such an action may award injunctive  
94 relief, including ordering reinstatement of the pharmacist to  
95 his or her job position, back pay, costs of the action, and  
96 reasonable attorney fees.

97 (d) Notwithstanding subsections (b) and (c), a  
98 pharmacist may not dispense a prescription for an off-label  
99 medication when the off-label use has not been adequately  
100 tested on humans and the potential harm has not been  
101 determined.

102 (e) This section shall not apply to the prescribing,  
103 administration, or dispensing of any controlled substances, as  
104 defined in Section 20-2-2, Code of Alabama 1975.

105 Section 2. (a) A pharmacy benefits manager (PBM) or a  
106 PBM affiliate, both as defined in Section 27-45A-3, Code of  
107 Alabama 1975, may not penalize or retaliate against a  
108 pharmacist or a pharmacist's employing pharmacy for  
109 recommending or dispensing a prescription of an off-label  
110 medication as defined in, and in accordance with, Section 1,  
111 including, but not limited to, any of the following:

112 (1) Canceling or refusing to renew a contract.



## HB127 INTRODUCED

113 (2) Taking legal action for breach of contract.

114 (3) Taking any action otherwise prohibited under

115 Chapter 45A of Title 27, Code of Alabama 1975.

116 (4) Initiating an audit under The Pharmacy Audit

117 Integrity Act, Article 8, Chapter 23, Title 34, Code of

118 Alabama 1975.

119 (b) This section shall not apply to the prescribing,

120 administration, or dispensing of any controlled substances, as

121 defined in Section 20-2-2, Code of Alabama 1975.

122 Section 3. Notwithstanding any other provision of law

123 to the contrary, the following drugs are authorized for sale

124 or purchase in this state without a prescription or

125 consultation with a health care professional:

126 (1) Ivermectin suitable for human use.

127 (2) Hydroxychloroquine.

128 Section 4. This act shall become effective on October

129 1, 2026.