SB389

117968-1

By Senators Orr and Butler

RFD: Health

First Read: 09-FEB-10

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SYNOPSIS: This bill would authorize the Alabama Department of Corrections to redispense unused prescription medicines.

A BILL

TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To authorize the Alabama Department of Corrections to accept and redispense unused prescription medications.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. As used in this act, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(1) CORRECTIONS FACILITY. Any facility or program controlled or operated by the state Department of Corrections or any of its agencies or departments and supported wholly or in part by state funds for the correctional care of persons.

(2) CUSTOMIZED PATIENT MEDICATION PACKAGE. A package that is prepared by a pharmacist for a specific patient and that contains two or more prescribed solid oral dosage forms.

(3) REPACKAGING. The process by which the pharmacy prepares a prescription it accepts pursuant to this act in a unit-dose package, unit-of-issue package or customized patient medication package for immediate dispensing in accordance with a current prescription.

(4) UNIT-DOSE PACKAGE. A package that contains a single-dose drug with the name, strength, control number, and expiration date of that drug on the label.

(5) UNIT-OF-ISSUE PACKAGE. A package that provides multiple doses of the same drug, but each drug is individually separated and includes the name, lot number, and expiration date of the drug.

Section 2. (a) A pharmacy operated by the Alabama Department of Corrections (ADOC) or operated by a company under contract with the ADOC, shall accept for the purpose of redispensing a prescription drug that has been dispensed and has left the control of the pharmacy or pharmacist if the prescription drug is being returned by a corrections facility that has met the requirements of routine on-site inspections by the pharmacy or pharmacist and has a registered professional nurse or a licensed practical nurse who is responsible for the security, handling, and administration of prescription drugs within that corrections facility and if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The pharmacy or pharmacist is satisfied that the conditions under which the prescription drug has been delivered, stored, and handled before and during its return

were such as to prevent damage, deterioration, or contamination that would adversely affect the identity, strength, quality, purity, stability, integrity, or effectiveness of the prescription drug.

(2) The pharmacist is satisfied that the prescription drug did not leave the control of the registered professional nurse or licensed practical nurse responsible for the security, handling, and administration of that prescription drug and that the prescription drug did not come into the physical possession of the individual for whom it was prescribed.

(3) The pharmacist is satisfied that the labeling and packaging of the prescription drug are accurate, have not been altered, defaced, or tampered with and include the identity, strength, expiration date, and lot number of the prescription drug.

(4) The prescription drug was dispensed in a unit-dose package or unit-of-issue package.

(b) A pharmacy operated by the ADOC or operated by a company under contract with the ADOC shall not accept for return prescription drugs as provided pursuant to this section until the pharmacist in charge develops a written set of protocols for accepting, returning to stock, repackaging, labeling, and redispensing prescription drugs. The written protocols shall be maintained on the premises of any pharmacy dispensing prescriptions for the ADOC and shall be readily

accessible to each pharmacist on duty. The written protocols shall include, at a minimum, each of the following:

(1) Methods for ensuring that damage, deterioration, or contamination has not occurred during the delivery, handling, storage, or return of the prescription drugs such that it would adversely affect the identity, strength, quality, purity, stability, integrity, or effectiveness of the prescription drugs or otherwise render the drugs unfit for distribution.

(2) Methods for accepting, returning to stock, repackaging, labeling, and redispensing the prescription drugs returned pursuant to this section.

(3) A uniform system of recording and tracking prescription drugs that are returned to stock, repackaged, labeled, and redistributed pursuant to this section.

(c) If the condition of a prescription drug and its package meets the standards set forth in subsection (b) of this section, a prescription drug shall be returned to stock and redistributed as follows:

(1) A prescription drug that was originally dispensed in the manufacturer's unit-dose package or unit-of-issue package that is returned in that same package may be returned to stock, repackaged, and redispensed as needed.

(2) A prescription drug that is repackaged into a unit-dose package or a unit-of-issue package by the pharmacy, dispensed and returned to that pharmacy in that unit-dose

package or unit-of-issue package may be returned to stock, but is shall not be repackaged. A unit-dose package or unit-of-issue package prepared by the pharmacist and returned to stock shall only be redispensed in that same unit-dose package or unit-of-issue package and shall only be redispensed once. A pharmacist shall not add unit-dose package drugs to a partially used unit-of-issue package.

(d) This section does not apply to any of the following:

(1) A controlled substance.

(2) A prescription drug that is dispensed as part of a customized patient medication package.

(3) A prescription drug that is not dispensed as a unit-dose package or a unit-of-issue package.

(4) A prescription drug that is not properly labeled with the identity, strength, lot number, and expiration date.

Section 3. This act shall become effective immediately following its passage and approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.