

SENATE FILE 1129

FILED FEB 9 1972

Social Services 2-11-72

By GAUDINEER

Passed Senate, Date _____ Passed House, Date _____
 Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
 Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to the dispensing and sale of prescription
 2 drugs.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
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1 Section 1. Section one hundred fifty-five point thirteen
2 (155.13), subsection six (6), Code 1971, is amended to read
3 as follows:

4 6. Substitution of a drug, or substance, ~~or brand~~ other
5 than the drug, or substance, ~~or brand~~ ordered in the
6 prescription of a physician, dentist or veterinarian licensed
7 by law.

8 Sec. 2. Chapter one hundred fifty-five (155), Code 1971,
9 is amended by adding the following new section:

10 "If a medical practitioner prescribes a drug or medicine
11 by its brand or trade name only and the pharmacy has in stock
12 another drug or medicine with the same medicinal substance
13 or property under another brand or trade name with a lower
14 retail price, the pharmacist shall so inform the person pre-
15 senting the prescription. If the person presenting the
16 prescription agrees, the pharmacist shall fill the prescrip-
17 tion with the brand or trade name of the drug or medicine
18 having the lowest retail price unless the medical practitioner
19 issuing the prescription specifically directs that only a
20 drug or medicine having a specific brand or trade name shall
21 be used. If the prescription identifies the drug or medicine
22 by its generic name, the pharmacist shall fill the prescrip-
23 tion with a brand or trade name of such drug or medicine in
24 stock having the lowest retail price. In any event, if the
25 pharmacist knows that the prescription is to be paid for in
26 whole or in part by any public funds, the pharmacist shall
27 fill such prescription with a brand or trade name of the drug
28 or medicine in stock, which has the same medicinal substances
29 or properties and the lowest retail price. All other orders
30 issued by the prescribing medical practitioner shall be
31 complied with by the pharmacist."

32 EXPLANATION

33 Pharmacists are the experts in identifying the generic
34 names and properties of medicines. This bill will allow
35 pharmacists to utilize this expert knowledge for the bene-

1 fit of the public by allowing customers to choose between
2 drugs and medicines having the same generic name and prop-
3 erties but differing prices, when their prescriptions are
4 filled.

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