ARC 0755D

INSPECTIONS, APPEALS, AND LICENSING DEPARTMENT[481]

Notice of Intended Action

Proposing rulemaking related to accessible prescription-related measures and providing an opportunity for public comment

The Board of Pharmacy hereby proposes to amend Chapter 552, "Standards—Practice of Pharmacy," Iowa Administrative Code.

Legal Authority for Rulemaking

This rulemaking is proposed under the authority provided in Iowa Code chapter 147 and 2026 Iowa Acts, House File 2585.

State or Federal Law Implemented

This rulemaking implements, in whole or in part, 2026 Iowa Acts, House File 2585.

Purpose and Summary

This proposed rulemaking updates the Board's rules to implement 2026 Iowa Acts, House File 2585. This proposed rulemaking instructs pharmacies licensed by the Board to comply with the new law, which requires every pharmacy in Iowa to either be able to provide prescription labels that are accessible to patients who are blind, visually impaired, or have a print disability or to refer those patients to a pharmacy that can provide such labeling. All references to Iowa Code section 155A.49 are to that section as enacted by 2026 Iowa Acts, House File 2585.

Regulatory Analysis

A Regulatory Analysis for this rulemaking was published in the Iowa Administrative Bulletin on September 30, 2026. A public hearing was held on the following date(s):

- October 20, 2026

Fiscal Impact

This rulemaking has no fiscal impact to the State of Iowa.

Jobs Impact

After analysis and review of this rulemaking, no impact on jobs has been found.

Waivers

Any person who believes that the application of the discretionary provisions of this rulemaking would result in hardship or injustice to that person may petition the Department for a waiver of the discretionary provisions, if any, pursuant to 7—Chapter 2504.

Public Comment

Any interested person may submit written or oral comments concerning this proposed rulemaking, which must be received by the Department no later than 4:30 p.m. on December 15, 2026. Comments should be directed to:

Laura Riordan Berardi
Department of Inspections, Appeals, and Licensing
6200 Park Avenue, Suite 100
Des Moines, Iowa 50321
Phone: 515.725.2183
Email: laura.berardi@dia.iowa.gov

Public Hearing

A public hearing at which persons may present their views orally or in writing will be held as follows:

December 15, 2026	6200 Park Avenue, Suite 100
11 a.m.	Des Moines, Iowa

Persons who wish to make oral comments at the public hearing may be asked to state their names for the record and to confine their remarks to the subject of this proposed rulemaking.

Any persons who intend to attend the public hearing and have special requirements, such as those related to hearing or mobility impairments, should contact the Department and advise of specific needs.

Review by Administrative Rules Review Committee

The Administrative Rules Review Committee, a bipartisan legislative committee which oversees rulemaking by executive branch agencies, may, on its own motion or on written request by any individual or group, review this rulemaking at its regular monthly meeting or at a special meeting. The Committee's meetings are open to the public, and interested persons may be heard as provided in Iowa Code section 17A.8(6).

The following rulemaking action is proposed:

ITEM 1. Adopt the following **new** subrule 552.21(6):

552.21(6) *Accessible prescription-related measures for persons who are blind, visually impaired, or have other print disabilities.* Pursuant to Iowa Code section 155A.49, upon the request of a patient or the patient's authorized representative, a pharmacy, except as provided in Iowa Code section 155A.49(3), will provide accessible prescription drug labels, bag tags, and medical guides (labeling) in accordance with the requirements identified in Iowa Code section 155A.49 and as provided herein or will provide an appropriate referral as outlined in paragraph 552.21(6)*"c."*

a. Accessible labeling will be compliant with current industry standards and the United States Government Accountability Office guidelines (Prescription Drug Labels: Actions Needed to Increase Awareness of Best Practices for Accessible Labels for Individuals Who Are Blind or Visually Impaired) published December 9, 2016.

b. A pharmacy will provide notice to the public of the availability of accessible labeling, such as posted signage, a notice on the pharmacy's website that is readable by screen readers, a message in a telephone system, or in another manner that is accessible by the affected patients. At least one audio format is required.

c. A pharmacy that cannot provide accessible labeling in accordance with Iowa Code section 155A.49 and paragraph 552.21(6)*"a"* will refer the patient to a pharmacy that can provide such accessible labeling and ensure continuity of care in conformance with the standard of care.