

**155A.23 Prohibited acts.**

1. A person shall not perform or cause the performance of or aid and abet any of the following acts:

a. Obtaining or attempting to obtain a prescription drug or device or procuring or attempting to procure the administration of a prescription drug or device by:

(1) Engaging in fraud, deceit, misrepresentation, or subterfuge.

(2) Forging or altering a written, electronic, or facsimile prescription or any written, electronic, or facsimile order.

(3) Concealing a material fact.

(4) Using a false name or giving a false address.

b. Willfully making a false statement in any prescription, report, or record required by [this chapter](#).

c. For the purpose of obtaining a prescription drug or device, falsely assuming the title of or claiming to be a manufacturer, wholesaler, pharmacist, pharmacy owner, physician, dentist, podiatric physician, prescribing psychologist, veterinarian, or other authorized person.

d. Making or uttering any false or forged oral, written, electronic, or facsimile prescription or oral, written, electronic, or facsimile order.

e. Forging, counterfeiting, simulating, or falsely representing any drug or device without the authority of the manufacturer, or using any mark, stamp, tag, label, or other identification device without the authorization of the manufacturer.

f. Manufacturing, repackaging, selling, delivering, or holding or offering for sale any drug or device that is adulterated, misbranded, counterfeit, suspected of being counterfeit, or that has otherwise been rendered unfit for distribution.

g. Adulterating, misbranding, or counterfeiting any drug or device.

h. Receiving any drug or device that is adulterated, misbranded, stolen, obtained by fraud or deceit, counterfeit, or suspected of being counterfeit, and delivering or proffering delivery of such drug or device for pay or otherwise.

i. Adulterating, mutilating, destroying, obliterating, or removing the whole or any part of the labeling of a drug or device or committing any other act with respect to a drug or device that results in the drug or device being misbranded.

j. Purchasing or receiving a drug or device from a person who is not licensed to distribute the drug or device to that purchaser or recipient.

k. Selling or transferring a drug or device to a person who is not authorized under the law of the jurisdiction in which the person receives the drug or device to purchase or possess the drug or device from the person selling or transferring the drug or device.

l. Failing to maintain or provide records as required by [this chapter](#), [chapter 124](#), or rules of the board.

m. Providing the board or any of its representatives or any state or federal official with false or fraudulent records or making false or fraudulent statements regarding any matter within the scope of [this chapter](#), [chapter 124](#), or rules of the board.

n. Distributing at wholesale any drug or device that meets any of the following conditions:

(1) The drug or device was purchased by a public or private hospital or other health care entity.

(2) The drug or device was donated or supplied at a reduced price to a charitable organization.

(3) The drug or device was purchased from a person not licensed to distribute the drug or device.

(4) The drug or device was stolen or obtained by fraud or deceit.

o. Failing to obtain a license or operating without a valid license when a license is required pursuant to [this chapter](#) or [chapter 147](#).

p. Engaging in misrepresentation or fraud in the distribution of a drug or device.

q. Distributing a drug or device to a patient without a prescription drug order or medication order from a practitioner licensed by law to use or prescribe the drug or device.

r. Distributing a drug or device that was previously dispensed by a pharmacy or distributed by a practitioner except as provided by rules of the board.

s. Failing to report any prohibited act.

2. Information communicated to a physician in an unlawful effort to procure a prescription drug or device or to procure the administration of a prescription drug shall not be deemed a privileged communication.

3. [Subsection 1](#), paragraphs “f” and “g”, shall not apply to the wholesale distribution by a manufacturer of a prescription drug or device that has been delivered into commerce pursuant to an application approved by the federal food and drug administration.

4. a. A person found in possession of a drug or device limited to dispensation by prescription, unless the drug or device was so lawfully dispensed, commits a serious misdemeanor.

b. Paragraph “a” does not apply to a licensed pharmacy, licensed wholesaler, physician, veterinarian, dentist, podiatric physician, optometrist, advanced registered nurse practitioner, physician assistant, pharmacist, a nurse acting under the direction of a physician, staff acting under the direction of a person licensed to prescribe, or the board of pharmacy, its officers, agents, inspectors, and representatives, or to a common carrier, manufacturer’s representative, or messenger when transporting the drug or device in the same unbroken package in which the drug or device was delivered to that person for transportation.

[87 Acts, ch 215, §23; 95 Acts, ch 108, §15; 2004 Acts, ch 1036, §13, 14; 2005 Acts, ch 179, §186; 2009 Acts, ch 41, §196; 2016 Acts, ch 1112, §14; 2024 Acts, ch 1056, §13](#)

Referred to in [§155A.24](#)