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AB-1064 Pharmacy practice: vaccines: independent initiation and administration. (2021-2022)

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Date Published: 10/11/2021 02:00 PM

Assembly Bill No. 1064

CHAPTER 655

An act to amend Section 4052.8 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to pharmacy.

[Approved by Governor October 08, 2021. Filed with Secretary of State October 08, 2021.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1064, Fong. Pharmacy practice: vaccines: independent initiation and administration.

Existing law, the Pharmacy Law, establishes the California State Board of Pharmacy within the Department of Consumer Affairs and sets forth its powers and duties relating to the licensing and regulation of pharmacists. A violation of the Pharmacy Law is a crime.

Existing law authorizes a pharmacist to administer immunizations pursuant to a protocol with the prescriber.

Existing law provides additional authority for the pharmacist to independently initiate and administer any COVID-19 vaccines approved or authorized by the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA), or vaccines listed on the routine immunization schedules recommended by the federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), in compliance with individual ACIP vaccine recommendations, and published by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for persons 3 years of age and older.

This bill would recast this provision to instead authorize a pharmacist to independently initiate and administer any vaccine that has been approved or authorized by the FDA and received an ACIP individual vaccine recommendation published by the CDC for persons 3 years of age and older.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 4052.8 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4052.8. (a) In addition to the authority provided in paragraph (11) of subdivision (a) of Section 4052, a pharmacist may independently initiate and administer any vaccine that has been approved or authorized by the federal Food and Drug Administration and received a federal Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices individual vaccine recommendation published by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for persons three years of age and older.

(b) In order to initiate and administer an immunization described in subdivision (a), a pharmacist shall do all of the following:

- (1) Complete an immunization training program endorsed by the CDC or the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education that, at a minimum, includes hands-on injection technique, clinical evaluation of indications and contraindications of vaccines,

and the recognition and treatment of emergency reactions to vaccines, and shall maintain that training.

(2) Be certified in basic life support.

(3) Comply with all state and federal recordkeeping and reporting requirements, including providing documentation to the patient's primary care provider and entering information in the appropriate immunization registry designated by the immunization branch of the State Department of Public Health.

(c) A pharmacist administering immunizations pursuant to this section, or paragraph (11) of subdivision (a) of Section 4052, may also initiate and administer epinephrine or diphenhydramine by injection for the treatment of a severe allergic reaction.