

HOUSE BILL 1999

By Jernigan

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;
Title 53 and Title 63, relative to prescriptions.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. This act is known and may be cited as the "Accessible Prescription Labels Act."

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 63, Chapter 10, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) If a patient informs the pharmacy that the patient identifies as an individual who is blind, visually impaired, or otherwise print disabled, then the pharmacist shall dispense the patient's prescription with an accessible prescription label that:

(1) Is appropriate to the disability and preference of the individual making the request through use of audible, large print, or Braille labels;

(2) Conforms to the format specific best practices established by the United States access board;

(3) Contains all the label information required by §§ 53-1-109 and 53-10-207 and 21 CFR Part 201, including cautions and warnings, and information available to sighted individuals reading the printed label;

(4) Is usable for at least the duration of the prescription;

(5) Does not incur additional cost to the patient; and

(6) Is available to the patient in a timely manner comparable to other patients' wait time.

(b) A pharmacy shall ensure that the prescription label as described in subsection (a) is compatible with the prescription reader if a reader is provided. As used in this subsection (b), "prescription reader" means a device that is designed to audibly convey the information contained on the label of a prescription drug.

SECTION 3. For rulemaking purposes, this act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act takes effect January 1, 2023, the public welfare requiring it.