HOUSE BILL 748

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5lr1810 CF SB 14

By: Delegates Saab, S. Howard, and Sophocleus
Introduced and read first time: February 13, 2015
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations
Committee Demonte Formalale

Committee Report: Favorable House action: Adopted Read second time: March 18, 2015

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

Health Occupations - Board of Pharmacy - Pharmacist Rehabilitation Committee - Definition

FOR the purpose of altering the definition of "pharmacist rehabilitation committee", for
purposes of provisions of law governing pharmacist rehabilitation committees, to
provide that it is a group that includes at least one pharmacist instead of a group,
the majority of which is comprised of pharmacists; and generally relating to
pharmacist rehabilitation committees.

- 9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 10 Article Health Occupations
- 11 Section 12–317
- 12 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 13 (2014 Replacement Volume)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16

Article – Health Occupations

- 17 12–317.
- 18 (a) In this section, "pharmacist rehabilitation committee" means a group[, the 19 majority of which is comprised of pharmacists, that is] **THAT:**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

<u>Underlining</u> indicates amendments to bill.

Strike out indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



2 **HOUSE BILL 748** 1 (1) **INCLUDES AT LEAST ONE PHARMACIST; AND** $\mathbf{2}$ (2) **IS** recognized by the Board. 3 (b) For purposes of this section, a pharmacist rehabilitation committee evaluates 4 and provides assistance to any pharmacist, registered pharmacy intern, or registered pharmacy technician in need of treatment and rehabilitation for alcoholism, drug abuse, $\mathbf{5}$ 6 chemical dependency, or other physical, emotional, or mental condition. 7 (c) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the proceedings, records, (1)8 and files of a pharmacist rehabilitation committee are not discoverable and are not 9 admissible in evidence in any civil action arising out of matters that are being or have been reviewed and evaluated by the pharmacist rehabilitation committee. 10 11 Paragraph (1) of this subsection does not apply to any record or (2)12document that is considered by the pharmacist rehabilitation committee and that otherwise 13would be subject to discovery and introduction into evidence in a civil trial. 14For purposes of this subsection, civil action does not include a (3)15proceeding before the Board or judicial review of a proceeding before the Board. 16A person who acts in good faith and within the scope of jurisdiction of a (d)

16 (d) A person who acts in good faith and within the scope of jurisdiction of a 17 pharmacist rehabilitation committee is not civilly liable for any action as a member of the 18 pharmacist rehabilitation committee or for giving information to, participating in, or 19 contributing to the function of the pharmacist rehabilitation committee.

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 21 October 1, 2015.

Approved:

Governor.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.

President of the Senate.