

# HOUSE BILL 663

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By: **Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee (By Request – Departmental – Health)**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2020

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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Committee Report: Favorable

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 6, 2020

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Prescription Drug Monitoring Program – Out-of-State Pharmacists and**  
3 **Discipline for Noncompliance**

4 FOR the purpose of altering the definition of the term “pharmacist” in provisions of law  
5 regarding the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program to include pharmacists  
6 licensed in other states to dispense monitored prescription drugs; altering the  
7 grounds for which a certain health occupations board and certain disciplinary panels  
8 are authorized to take disciplinary action against certain licensed dentists or  
9 applicants for a license to practice dentistry, certain licensed physician assistants,  
10 and certain licensed physicians for failing to comply with the requirements of the  
11 Program; and generally relating to the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program.

12 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

13 Article – Health – General  
14 Section 21–2A–01(a)  
15 Annotated Code of Maryland  
16 (2019 Replacement Volume)

17 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

18 Article – Health – General  
19 Section 21–2A–01(i)  
20 Annotated Code of Maryland  
21 (2019 Replacement Volume)

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

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



1 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
2 Article – Health Occupations  
3 Section 4–315(a)(34) and (35), 14–404(a)(44) and (45), and 15–314(a)(42) and (43)  
4 Annotated Code of Maryland  
5 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

6 BY adding to  
7 Article – Health Occupations  
8 Section 4–315(a)(36), 14–404(a)(46), and 15–314(a)(44)  
9 Annotated Code of Maryland  
10 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

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

13 **Article – Health – General**

14 21–2A–01.

15 (a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

16 (i) “Pharmacist” means an individual who is licensed under Title 12 of the Health  
17 Occupations Article, **OR BY ANOTHER STATE**, to dispense a monitored prescription drug.

18 **Article – Health – Occupations**

19 4–315.

20 (a) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 4–318 of this subtitle, the Board may  
21 deny a general license to practice dentistry, a limited license to practice dentistry, or a  
22 teacher’s license to practice dentistry to any applicant, reprimand any licensed dentist,  
23 place any licensed dentist on probation, or suspend or revoke the license of any licensed  
24 dentist, if the applicant or licensee:

25 (34) Willfully and without legal justification, fails to cooperate with a lawful  
26 investigation conducted by the Board; [or]

27 (35) Fails to comply with § 1–223 of this article; **OR**

28 **(36) FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE**  
29 **PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM IN TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 2A OF THE**  
30 **HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE.**

31 14–404.

32 (a) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 14–405 of this subtitle, a disciplinary

1 panel, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum of the disciplinary panel, may  
2 reprimand any licensee, place any licensee on probation, or suspend or revoke a license if  
3 the licensee:

4 (44) Fails to meet the qualifications for licensure under Subtitle 3 of this  
5 title; [or]

6 (45) Fails to comply with § 1–223 of this article; OR

7 (46) FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE  
8 PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM IN TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 2A OF THE  
9 HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE.

10 15–314.

11 (a) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 15–315 of this subtitle, a disciplinary  
12 panel, on the affirmative vote of a majority of the quorum, may reprimand any physician  
13 assistant, place any physician assistant on probation, or suspend or revoke a license if the  
14 physician assistant:

15 (42) Performs delegated medical acts without the supervision of a physician;  
16 [or]

17 (43) Fails to submit to a criminal history records check under § 14–308.1 of  
18 this article; OR

19 (44) FAILS TO COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE  
20 PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM IN TITLE 21, SUBTITLE 2A OF THE  
21 HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE.

22 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
23 October 1, 2020.

Approved:

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Governor.

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Speaker of the House of Delegates.

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President of the Senate.