



A Network Of  
Independently Owned  
Pharmacies

Testimony offered on behalf of:  
**EPIC PHARMACIES, INC.**

---

IN SUPPORT OF:  
**SB 355 – Health Occupations - Pharmacists –  
Administration of Vaccinations**

Senate Education, Health and Environmental Affairs Committee  
In the Senate - Hearing 2/13 at 1:00 p.m.

EPIC Pharmacies **SUPPORTS SB 355** – Health Occupations - Pharmacists – Administration of Vaccinations

EPIC Pharmacies are positioned in hundreds of communities across the state and represent the front line of healthcare providers caring for Maryland communities and your constituents. As the most accessible members of the healthcare team, pharmacists are uniquely positioned to influence public health efforts in the area of vaccinations.

Current law has allowed pharmacists to safely and effectively administer flu vaccinations to patients age 9 and above without a prescription for many years. While these patients have easy access to vaccines for influenza, we receive many requests from parents to provide additional CDC recommended vaccinations to this age group. Adult patients have made pharmacies their choice for adult vaccinations because of the convenience that we provide, and they want the same convenience when providing vaccinations for their children. This bill would allow any CDC recommended vaccination to be administered to patients age 9 and above without a prescription or prior doctor visit and would maintain the current requirement that primary care physicians be notified upon each instance.

In 42 other states, pharmacists are able to provide vaccinations without prescriptions to adolescents, including 11 states that do not have an age threshold for pharmacist-administered immunizations. I urge you to follow the lead of these states and make vaccinations easier and more convenient for these young Marylanders.

EPIC Pharmacies respectfully requests a **FAVORABLE REPORT on SB 355.**

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brian M. Hose".

Brian M. Hose, PharmD  
EPIC PharmPAC Chairman  
Owner / CEO  
Sharpsburg Pharmacy  
301-432-7223  
[brian.hose@gmail.com](mailto:brian.hose@gmail.com)