

SENATE BILL 469

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6lr3347
CF HB 117

By: **Senator McFadden**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2016

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 26, 2016

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Board of Pharmacy – Licensure Requirements for Pharmacists – Proof of**
3 **Proficiency in English**

4 FOR the purpose of providing that, for applicants for a license to practice pharmacy,
5 graduation from a certain ~~schools~~ school is acceptable proof of proficiency in the oral
6 communication of the English language under a certain provision of law; and
7 generally relating to licensure requirements for pharmacists.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
9 Article – Health Occupations
10 Section 12–302(g)
11 Annotated Code of Maryland
12 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2015 Supplement)

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

15 **Article – Health Occupations**

16 12–302.

17 (g) (1) **[The] EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SUBSECTION,**
18 **THE** Board shall require, as part of its examination or licensing procedures, an applicant
19 for a license to practice pharmacy to demonstrate an oral competency in the English
20 language by passing a Board approved standardized test of oral competency.

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 (2) The Board shall adopt regulations that establish a procedure for testing
2 an individual who because of the individual's speech or hearing impairment is unable to
3 complete satisfactorily a Board approved standardized test of oral competency.

4 (3) If any disciplinary charge or action that relates to a problem with the
5 oral communication of the English language is brought against a licensee under this title,
6 the Board shall require the licensee to pass a Board approved standardized test of oral
7 competency.

8 (4) The Board may not require an applicant for a license to practice
9 pharmacy, who was previously licensed in another state to practice pharmacy, to
10 demonstrate an oral competency in the English language, if the other state's examination
11 and licensing procedures at the time the applicant was licensed in the other state included
12 an oral competency component similar to the oral competency component in this State's
13 examination and licensing procedures.

14 **(5) GRADUATION FROM A RECOGNIZED ENGLISH-SPEAKING**
15 ~~**UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOL OR HIGH SCHOOL AFTER AT LEAST 3 YEARS OF**~~
16 ~~**ENROLLMENT OR FROM A RECOGNIZED ENGLISH-SPEAKING**~~ **PROFESSIONAL**
17 **SCHOOL ACCREDITED BY THE ACCREDITATION COUNCIL FOR PHARMACY**
18 **EDUCATION IS ACCEPTABLE AS PROOF OF PROFICIENCY IN THE ORAL**
19 **COMMUNICATION OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE UNDER THIS SUBSECTION.**

20 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
21 October 1, 2016.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.