

SENATE BILL 562

J2, J1

6lr1784
CF HB 838

By: Senator Gile

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2026

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **State Board of Pharmacy – Prescriber–Pharmacist Agreements – Treatment of**
3 **Opioid Use Disorders**

4 FOR the purpose of repealing a requirement that authorized prescribers submit
5 prescriber–pharmacist agreements to the health occupations board that regulates
6 the authorized prescriber; authorizing pharmacists, under certain circumstances, to
7 enter into prescriber–pharmacist agreements that authorize the pharmacist to treat
8 an opioid use disorder using controlled dangerous substances drug therapy;
9 requiring that a protocol that authorizes controlled dangerous substances drug
10 therapy require a pharmacist to request certain data from the Prescription Drug
11 Monitoring Program before initiating or modifying a controlled dangerous
12 substances therapy; and generally relating to prescriber–pharmacists agreements.

13 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
14 Article – Health Occupations
15 Section 12–6A–03, 12–6A–04, and 12–6A–06
16 Annotated Code of Maryland
17 (2021 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

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

20 **Article – Health Occupations**

21 12–6A–03.

22 (a) An authorized prescriber and a licensed pharmacist who wish to enter into
23 therapy management contracts shall have a prescriber–pharmacists agreement.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



16 12-6A-04.

17 (A) [A] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, A pharmacist is
18 authorized to enter into a prescriber–pharmacist agreement if the pharmacist:

19 (1) Is a licensed pharmacist;

20 (2) Has a Doctor of Pharmacy Degree or equivalent training as established
21 in regulations adopted under this subtitle;

(3) Is approved by the Board to enter into a prescriber-pharmacist agreement with an authorized prescriber in accordance with this subtitle; and

24 (4) Meets the requirements that are established by regulations adopted
25 under this subtitle.

26 (B) A PHARMACIST MAY ENTER INTO A PRESCRIBER-PHARMACIST
27 AGREEMENT THAT AUTHORIZES A PHARMACIST TO TREAT AN OPIOID USE DISORDER
28 USING CONTROLLED DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES DRUG THERAPY IF THE
29 PHARMACIST:

5 12-6A-06.

6 (a) A protocol under this subtitle:

7 (1) May authorize:

(ii) The modification, continuation, and discontinuation of drug therapy under written, disease-state specific protocols;

12 (iii) The ordering of laboratory tests; and

13 (iv) Other patient care management measures related to monitoring
14 or improving the outcomes of drug or device therapy; and

15 (2) May not authorize acts that exceed the scope of practice of the parties
16 to the therapy management contract.

17 (b) A protocol shall prohibit the substitution of a chemically dissimilar drug
18 product by the pharmacist for the product prescribed by the authorized prescriber, unless
19 permitted in the therapy management contract.

20 (C) A PROTOCOL THAT AUTHORIZES CONTROLLED DANGEROUS
21 SUBSTANCES DRUG THERAPY SHALL REQUIRE THE PHARMACIST TO REQUEST
22 RELEVANT DATA FROM THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM BEFORE
23 INITIATING OR MODIFYING A CONTROLLED DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES DRUG
24 THERAPY.

25 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July
26 1, 2026.