

130th MAINE LEGISLATURE

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Legislative Document

No. 998

H.P. 736

House of Representatives, March 10, 2021

An Act To Amend the Continuing Education Requirement for Pharmacists

Reference to the Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services suggested and ordered printed.

ROBERT B. HUNT Clerk

R(+ B. Hunt

Presented by Representative TEPLER of Topsham.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §13735, first ¶, as amended by PL 2013, c. 308, §3, is further amended to read:

An annual renewal license may not be issued by the board until the applicant certifies to the board that, during the calendar year preceding an application for renewal, the applicant has participated in not less than 15 hours of approved courses of continuing professional pharmaceutical education as set out in this section. Of For a pharmacist authorized to administer drugs and immunizations, of the 15 hours to be completed, at least 2 hours must be in board-approved courses on drug administration as described in section 13702-A, subsection 28. A pharmacist who enters into a collaborative practice agreement must agree to complete, in each year of the agreement, 5 of the 15 hours required in this section in the areas of practice covered by the agreement. The continuing professional pharmaceutical educational courses consist of postgraduate studies, institutes, seminars, workshops, lectures, conferences, extension studies, correspondence courses or such other forms of continuing professional pharmaceutical education as may be approved by the board.

17 SUMMARY

This bill amends the law governing continuing pharmacy education by providing that only pharmacists authorized to administer drugs and immunizations are required to complete at least 2 hours in board-approved courses on drug administration.