

2025 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 19

BY SENATOR FESI

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

PHARMACEUTICALS. Provides relative to the dispensing of ivermectin. (gov sig)

AN ACT

To enact R.S. 37:1218.3, relative to the dispensing of ivermectin; to provide for a standing order for the dispensing of ivermectin; to provide for pharmacist authorization; to provide for rulemaking; to provide for immunity; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related matters.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

Section 1. R.S. 37:1218.3 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

§1218.3. Authorization to dispense ivermectin

A. A pharmacist may dispense ivermectin to any person who is eighteen years of age or older pursuant to a standing order issued by the Louisiana Department of Health.

B.(1) The Louisiana Department of Health shall adopt rules to establish standard procedures for the dispensing of ivermectin including but not limited to:

- (a) Providing the patient with a screening risk assessment tool.**
- (b) Providing the patient with information on the indications and contraindications for the use of ivermectin, the appropriate method for using**

ivermectin, the importance of medical follow-up, and any other information considered appropriate by the department.

(2) The rules may include prohibitions on dispensing ivermectin that contains any ingredients determined by the department to be harmful.

C. In addition to the ingredient cost and dispensing fee associated with dispensing ivermectin, a pharmacy may charge an administrative fee for the services provided pursuant to Paragraph (B)(1) of this Section.

D. A pharmacist acting in good faith and with reasonable care pursuant to the Section is immune from disciplinary or adverse administrative actions from the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy and is immune from civil liability in the absence of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

E. Nothing in this Section shall be construed to require a health insurance issuer to provide coverage for the cost of ivermectin dispensed pursuant to the provisions of this Section.

Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become effective on the day following such approval.

The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Senate Legislative Services. The keyword, summary, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

DIGEST

SB 19 Engrossed

2025 Regular Session

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Proposed law authorizes a pharmacist to dispense ivermectin to a person 18 or older pursuant to a standing order issued by the La. Dept. of Health.

Proposed law requires the La. Dept. of Health to adopt rules to establish procedures for dispensing ivermectin.

Proposed law authorizes a pharmacy to charge an administrative fee for any services required by proposed law in addition to the ingredient cost and dispensing fee.

Proposed law provides for immunity for pharmacists dispensing ivermectin in accordance with proposed law.

Proposed law provides that a health insurance issuer is not required to provide coverage for the cost of ivermectin dispensed pursuant to proposed law.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 37:1218.3)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to
the original bill

1. Changes the effective date from August 1, 2025 to upon signature of the governor.