DIGEST

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HB 918 Original 2026 Regular Session Galle

Abstract: Provides relative to prescription drug costs.

Proposed law requires the La. Dept. of Health (department) to develop and maintain a list of critical prescription drugs for which there is substantial public interest in understanding pricing.

Proposed law requires the department to consider specified factors when developing the list, including cost to public healthcare programs, in-state pricing, usage rates, availability of alternatives, treatment outcomes, and other measurable factors.

Proposed law allows the department to consider recommendations from government agencies, the public, and healthcare and pharmaceutical stakeholders when creating the list.

Proposed law requires the department to review and update the critical prescription drug list at least every three years.

Proposed law requires manufacturers of drugs placed on the critical prescription drug list to report detailed information to the department, including production costs, research and development costs, marketing and advertising costs, foreign pricing, and prices charged to Louisiana purchasers.

Proposed law authorizes the department to adopt rules to implement these reporting requirements and provides that failure to report constitutes a violation of the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law.

Proposed law provides that manufacturer reported information is confidential, exempt from public records disclosure, and may only be publicly reported in aggregated form.

Proposed law requires the department to prepare and submit an annual report to the legislature analyzing prescription drug prices and identifying drugs with excessively high costs compared to other jurisdictions and overall development costs.

Proposed law authorizes the department to include recommendations in the annual report to reduce prescription drug costs while maintaining access and quality of care.

Proposed law requires the annual report to be submitted to the legislature.

Proposed law requires any person marketing a prescription drug directly to a healthcare provider to

disclose specified price information in educational or marketing materials.

Proposed law specifies the minimum price disclosures required, including wholesale acquisition cost information, marketing dates, pricing history, and manufacturer information.

Proposed law requires disclosures to be provided in a form prescribed by the department and delivered at the same time and in the same manner as the marketing materials.

Proposed law provides that violations of the drug price disclosure requirements constitute prohibited practices under the Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law.

Proposed law adds the confidentiality provision for reported drug pricing information to the list of exceptions under the public records law.

(Amends R.S. 40:2255.1 and R.S. 44:4.1; Adds R.S. 40:2255.2-2255.7)