

2026 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 483

BY SENATOR REESE

PHARMACISTS. Provides relative to the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:1172, the introductory paragraph of 1173, the introductory  
3 paragraph of 1174(A), 1175(B), (C), and (D), and 1177 and to enact R.S. 37:1173.1,  
4 relative to the Louisiana Board of Pharmacy; to provide for board membership and  
5 qualifications; to provide for term limits; to provide for an effective date; and to  
6 provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 37:1172, the introductory paragraph of 1173, the introductory  
9 paragraph of 1174(A), 1175(B), (C), and (D) and 1177 are hereby amended and reenacted  
10 and R.S. 37:1173.1 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §1172. Membership

12 A. The board shall consist of seventeen members appointed by the governor;  
13 ~~including two~~ **as follows:**

14 **(1) One** licensed ~~pharmacists~~ **pharmacist** from each of the ~~eight~~ pharmacy  
15 districts as provided in R.S. 37:1173, ~~and one~~

16 **(2) Eight members representing licensed healthcare professionals as**  
17 **provided in R.S. 37:1173.1.**



1 For purposes of this Paragraph, "independent community pharmacy" means  
2 a Louisiana-permitted pharmacy that is not part of a chain organization  
3 operating more than nine pharmacy locations within the state.

4 (5) One licensed pharmacist or licensed healthcare professional with  
5 prescriptive authority who represents Districts 1, 2, 3, and 6.

6 (6) One licensed pharmacist or licensed healthcare professional with  
7 prescriptive authority who represents Districts 4, 5, 7, and 8.

8 §1174. Qualifications

9 A. ~~Each~~ In addition to the requirements provided for in R.S. 37:1173.1,  
10 each pharmacist member of the board shall at the time of appointment:

11 \* \* \*

12 §1175. Appointment process; vacancies

13 \* \* \*

14 B. When a vacancy occurs in the membership of the board representing one  
15 of the eight districts provided for in R.S. 37:1173 for any reason, including  
16 expiration of term, removal, resignation, death, disability, or disqualification, the  
17 following nominating process shall be satisfied:

18 \* \* \*

19 C. When the vacancy in question involves the consumer representative or a  
20 licensed healthcare professional appointed pursuant to R.S. 37:1173.1, the  
21 governor shall fill the vacancy at his pleasure within sixty days without following  
22 the procedure set forth in Subsection B of this Section, provided the consumer  
23 representative or licensed healthcare professional meets the requirements for such  
24 member specified in this Section Part.

25 D. ~~The~~ For a vacancy filled pursuant to Subsection B of this Section the  
26 secretary of the board shall be charged with the duty of forwarding to each licensed  
27 pharmacist, by United States mail, to the last known address indicated in the board's  
28 records, a nomination ballot. The ballot, or an accompanying communication, shall  
29 indicate the date, time, and place, for the counting of ballots. At a gathering open to

1 the public, the ballots shall be counted openly by the secretary or by one or more  
 2 individuals designated by the president. The secretary shall certify to the governor  
 3 the names of the three nominees receiving the highest number of nominations. From  
 4 the names submitted to him in this manner, the governor may select and appoint one  
 5 eligible individual to fill the vacancy in question.

6 \* \* \*

7 §1177. Terms

8 A. Except as provided in R.S. 37:1175, pharmacist members of the board **and**  
 9 **licensed healthcare professionals who are not pharmacists appointed pursuant**  
 10 **to R.S. 37:1173.1** shall be appointed for a term of six years, beginning on July first  
 11 of the year in which the appointment is made.

12 B. The terms of the pharmacist members of the board **and licensed**  
 13 **healthcare professionals who are not pharmacists appointed pursuant to R.S.**  
 14 **37:1173.1** shall be staggered, so that the terms of no more than six pharmacist  
 15 members shall expire in any year. Each member shall serve until a successor is  
 16 appointed and qualified.

17 C. The at-large consumer representative shall serve at the pleasure of the  
 18 governor.

19 **D. A member may serve no more than two consecutive full terms.**

20 Section 2.(A) Every member of the board serving in office on the effective date of  
 21 this Act shall be removed from office on June 30, 2026.

22 (B) No later than July 1, 2026, the governor shall appoint seventeen new members  
 23 to the board, which may include the reappointment of any existing member.

24 (C) Every appointment shall be in accordance with the board member qualifications  
 25 provided for of this Act.

26 (D) For the initial appointments pursuant to this Section, members appointed to  
 27 represent each of the eight pharmacy districts shall be appointed directly by the governor and  
 28 not in accordance with the nomination process provided for in R.S. 37:1175(B).

29 (E) Board members appointed pursuant to his Section shall be subject to Senate

1 confirmation in the 2027 Regular Session of the Legislature.

2 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
3 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
4 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
5 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
6 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 483 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Reese

Present law provides for the membership of the La. Board of Pharmacy.

Present law provides for 16 pharmacist members on the board, with two members selected from each of the eight pharmacy districts established in the state following an election and submission of the top three names to the governor for appointment.

Proposed law changes the number of pharmacists selected from the pharmacy districts pursuant to an election from 16 to eight, with one pharmacist elected from each district.

Proposed law provides for the following eight licensed healthcare professional members on the board:

- (1) Three compounding pharmacists.
- (2) One chain pharmacy pharmacist.
- (3) One hospital pharmacy pharmacist.
- (4) One independent community pharmacy pharmacist.
- (5) One licensed pharmacist or licensed healthcare professional with prescriptive authority who represents Districts 1, 2, 3, and 6.
- (6) One licensed pharmacist or licensed healthcare professional with prescriptive authority who represents Districts 4, 5, 7, and 8.

Present law provides for one consumer member who serves at the pleasure of the governor.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides that the governor shall fill the vacancy of the consumer member at his pleasure.

Proposed law provides that the governor shall fill the vacancy of the consumer member and the licensed healthcare professionals not appointed through the election process within 60 days.

Proposed law establishes term limits for board members.

Proposed law provides for the time frame to implement the changes to board membership pursuant to proposed law.

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

(Amends R.S. 37:1172, 1173(intro para), 1174(A)(intro para), 1175(B), (C), and (D), and 1177; adds R.S. 37:1173.1)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

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

1. Changes the qualifications for certain board members.
2. Changes the implementation time frame.