The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Christine Arbo Peck.

## DIGEST

SB 55 Original

## 2017 Regular Session

Mills

<u>Present law</u> provides for who must obtain a controlled dangerous substance license in Louisiana. <u>Proposed law</u> clarifies that individuals who conduct research with, procure, possess, or prescribe controlled dangerous substances in Louisiana must also obtain a license to do so in Louisiana prior to engaging in any such activity.

<u>Present law</u> provides enrollment access to the Prescription Monitoring Program for prescribing practitioners. <u>Proposed law</u> establishes a process for automatic enrollment into the Prescription Monitoring Program upon initial licensure or upon annual renewal of a prescriber's controlled dangerous substance license.

Present law provides for when a prescriber shall access the Prescription Monitoring Program.

<u>Proposed law</u> expands the mandate to access the program prior to initially prescribing any Schedule II controlled dangerous substance or if the patient's course of treatment continues for more than 90 days. It further provides for exceptions of when a prescriber does not have to check the program.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires all prescribers in Louisiana to obtain three continuing education credit hours as a prerequisite of license renewal in the first annual renewal cycle after January 1, 2018, and three course hours in a three year period prior to subsequent renewals. Continuing education shall be in drug diversion training, best practice prescribing of controlled substances, and appropriate treatment for addiction.

<u>Proposed law</u> requires the health profession licensing boards that regulate prescribing practitioners to promulgate rules and regulations to implement the continuing education requirements established by this law, requires the boards to collect and maintain data on compliance and submit aggregate data to the Senate and House committees on health and welfare regarding compliance, and clarifies that these continuing education hours shall be considered among those already required at the time of passage of this law and not be in addition to what is already required.

<u>Proposed law</u> provisions relative to licensing requirements and prescription requirements are effective upon signature of the governor or upon lapse of gubernatorial action. <u>Proposed law</u> provisions relative to continuing education are effective January 1, 2018.

(Amends R.S. 40:973(A) and 978(F); adds R.S. 40:978.3)