

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

5 (5) One physician licensed pursuant to R.S. 37:1261 et seq., who, at the
6 time of appointment and throughout service, is actively engaged in clinical
7 medical practice in Louisiana and who regularly prescribes or collaborates with
8 pharmacists in the management of patient medication therapy.

9 (6) One registered nurse licensed pursuant to R.S. 37:911 et seq., who,
10 at the time of appointment and throughout service, is actively engaged in
11 clinical nursing practice in Louisiana and who regularly administers or oversees
12 the administration of medication in a clinical setting.

13 §1174. Qualifications

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

16 * * *

17 §1175. Appointment process; vacancies

18 * * *

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

23 * * *

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

1 and (5) shall begin on July 1, 2026. The board members representing Districts 1, 4, and 7
 2 whose terms expire on June 30, 2028, shall not be replaced pursuant to the nomination
 3 process provided for in R.S. 37:1175(B). The terms for the licensed healthcare professional
 4 board members provided for in R.S. 37:1173.1(2), (3), and (6) shall begin on July 1, 2028.

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

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 from 16 to 8, with one pharmacist elected from each district.

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

- (1) Three sterile compounding pharmacists.
- (2) One chain pharmacy pharmacist.
- (3) One hospital pharmacy pharmacist.
- (4) One independent community pharmacy pharmacist.
- (5) One licensed physician.
- (6) One registered nurse.

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 timeframe 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)