



STATE OF ARIZONA  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DOUGLAS A. DUCEY  
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

February 14, 2019

The Honorable Katie Hobbs  
Secretary of State  
1700 W. Washington, 7<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Re: HB 2075 electronic prescribing; exceptions; deadlines

Dear Secretary Hobbs:

Today I signed HB 2075 electronic prescribing; exceptions; deadlines.

Through last year's Opioid Epidemic Act, Arizona has demonstrated its strong commitment to preventing and treating addiction. One provision of last year's legislation required e-prescribing for opioids beginning this year, but gave providers an option for a one-year delay via a waiver process.

This bill removes a cumbersome waiver process which many providers opted for and replaces it with a clean and firm deadline for all providers – January 1, 2020.

Arizona remains firmly committed to combating the opioid epidemic and will continue to take aggressive actions.

Sincerely,

Douglas A. Ducey  
Governor  
State of Arizona

cc: The Honorable Karen Fann  
The Honorable Rusty Bowers  
The Honorable Regina Cobb

House Engrossed

**FILED**  
**KATIE HOBBS**  
**SECRETARY OF STATE**

State of Arizona  
House of Representatives  
Fifty-fourth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2019

**CHAPTER 4**  
**HOUSE BILL 2075**

AN ACT

AMENDING SECTIONS 32-2504, 32-2532, 36-2525 AND 36-2603, ARIZONA REVISED  
STATUTES; RELATING TO PRESCRIPTION ORDERS.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:  
2 Section 1. Section 32-2504, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
3 read:  
4 32-2504. Powers and duties; delegation of authority; rules;  
5 subcommittees; immunity  
6 A. The board shall:  
7 1. As its primary duty, protect the public from unlawful,  
8 incompetent, unqualified, impaired or unprofessional physician assistants.  
9 2. License and regulate physician assistants pursuant to this  
10 chapter.  
11 3. Order and evaluate physical, psychological, psychiatric and  
12 competency testing of licensees and applicants the board determines is  
13 necessary to enforce this chapter.  
14 4. Review the credentials and the abilities of applicants for  
15 licensure whose professional records or physical or mental capabilities  
16 may not meet the requirements of this chapter.  
17 5. Initiate investigations and determine on its own motion whether  
18 a licensee has engaged in unprofessional conduct or is or may be  
19 incompetent or mentally or physically unable to safely perform health care  
20 tasks.  
21 6. Establish fees and penalties pursuant to section 32-2526.  
22 7. Develop and recommend standards governing the profession.  
23 8. Engage in the full exchange of information with the licensing  
24 and disciplinary boards and professional associations of other states and  
25 jurisdictions of the United States and foreign countries and a statewide  
26 association for physician assistants.  
27 9. Direct the preparation and circulation of educational material  
28 the board determines is helpful and proper for its licensees.  
29 10. Discipline and rehabilitate physician assistants pursuant to  
30 this chapter.  
31 11. ~~Beginning October 1, 2018,~~ Certify physician assistants for  
32 THIRTY-DAY PRESCRIPTION PRIVILEGES FOR SCHEDULE II, SCHEDULE III, SCHEDULE  
33 IV AND SCHEDULE V CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES THAT ARE OPIOIDS OR BENZODIAZEPINE  
34 AND ninety-day prescription privileges for schedule II, ~~or~~ schedule III,  
35 SCHEDULE IV AND SCHEDULE V controlled substances that are not opioids or  
36 benzodiazepine if the physician assistant either:  
37 (a) Within the preceding three years of application, completed  
38 forty-five hours in pharmacology or clinical management of drug therapy or  
39 at the time of application is certified by a national commission on the  
40 certification of physician assistants or its successor.  
41 (b) Met any other requirement established by board rule.  
42 B. The board may delegate to the executive director the board's  
43 authority pursuant to this section or section 32-2551. The board shall  
44 adopt a substantive policy statement pursuant to section 41-1091 for each

1 specific licensing and regulatory authority the board delegates to the  
2 executive director.

3 C. The board may make and adopt rules necessary or proper for the  
4 administration of this chapter.

5 D. The chairperson may establish subcommittees consisting of board  
6 members and define their duties as the chairperson deems necessary to  
7 carry out the functions of the board.

8 E. Board employees, including the executive director, temporary  
9 personnel and professional medical investigators, are immune from civil  
10 liability for good faith actions they take to enforce this chapter.

11 F. In performing its duties pursuant to subsection A of this  
12 section, the board may receive and review staff reports on complaints,  
13 malpractice cases and all investigations.

14 G. The chairperson and vice chairperson of the Arizona regulatory  
15 board of physician assistants are members of the committee on executive  
16 director selection and retention established by section 32-1403,  
17 subsection G, which is responsible for the appointment of the executive  
18 director pursuant to section 32-1405.

19 Sec. 2. Section 32-2532, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
20 read:

21 32-2532. Prescribing, administering and dispensing drugs;  
22 limits and requirements; notice

23 A. Except as provided in subsection F of this section, a physician  
24 assistant shall not prescribe, dispense or administer:

25 1. A schedule II or schedule III controlled substance as defined in  
26 the federal controlled substances act of 1970 (P.L. 91-513; 84 Stat. 1242;  
27 21 United States Code section 802) without delegation by the supervising  
28 physician, board approval and United States drug enforcement  
29 administration registration.

30 2. A schedule IV or schedule V controlled substance as defined in  
31 the federal controlled substances act of 1970 without United States drug  
32 enforcement administration registration and delegation by the supervising  
33 physician.

34 3. Prescription-only medication without delegation by the  
35 supervising physician.

36 4. Prescription medication intended to perform or induce an  
37 abortion.

38 B. All prescription orders issued by a physician assistant shall  
39 contain the name, address and telephone number of the physician  
40 assistant. A physician assistant shall issue prescription orders for  
41 controlled substances under the physician assistant's own United States  
42 drug enforcement administration registration number.

43 ~~C. Unless certified for ninety-day prescription privileges pursuant~~  
44 ~~to section 32-2504, subsection A, a physician assistant shall not~~  
45 ~~prescribe a schedule II or schedule III controlled substance for a period~~

1 ~~exceeding seventy-two hours.~~ IF CERTIFIED FOR PRESCRIPTION PRIVILEGES  
2 PURSUANT TO SECTION 32-2504, SUBSECTION A, INITIAL PRESCRIPTIONS FOR  
3 SCHEDULE II CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES THAT ARE OPIOIDS ARE SUBJECT TO THE  
4 LIMITS PRESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 32-3248 AND 32-3248.01 IF THE PHYSICIAN  
5 ASSISTANT HAS BEEN DELEGATED TO PRESCRIBE SCHEDULE II CONTROLLED  
6 SUBSTANCES BY THE SUPERVISING PHYSICIAN PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION. For  
7 each schedule IV or schedule V controlled substance, ~~a~~ THE physician  
8 assistant may not prescribe the controlled substance more than five times  
9 in a six-month period for each patient.

10 D. A prescription for a schedule ~~II~~ or III controlled substance  
11 that is an opioid or benzodiazepine is not refillable without the written  
12 consent of the supervising physician.

13 E. Prescription-only drugs shall not be dispensed, prescribed or  
14 refillable for a period exceeding one year.

15 F. Except in an emergency, a physician assistant may dispense  
16 schedule II or schedule III controlled substances for a period of use of  
17 not to exceed seventy-two hours with board approval or any other  
18 controlled substance for a period of use of not to exceed ninety days and  
19 may administer controlled substances without board approval if it is  
20 medically indicated in an emergency dealing with potential loss of life or  
21 limb or major acute traumatic pain. Notwithstanding the authority granted  
22 in this subsection, a physician assistant may not dispense a schedule II  
23 controlled substance that is an opioid, except for an implantable device  
24 or an opioid that is for medication-assisted treatment for substance use  
25 disorders.

26 G. Except for samples provided by manufacturers, all drugs  
27 dispensed by a physician assistant shall be:

28 ~~1. Prepackaged in a unit-of-use package by a pharmacist.~~

29 ~~2.~~ labeled to show the name of the physician assistant.

30 H. A physician assistant shall not obtain a drug from any source  
31 other than the supervising physician or a pharmacist. A physician  
32 assistant may receive manufacturers' samples if delegated to do so by the  
33 supervising physician.

34 I. If a physician assistant is approved by the board to prescribe,  
35 administer or dispense schedule II and schedule III controlled substances,  
36 the physician assistant shall maintain an up-to-date and complete log of  
37 all schedule II and schedule III controlled substances the physician  
38 assistant administers or dispenses. The board may not grant a physician  
39 assistant the authority to dispense schedule II controlled substances that  
40 are opioids, except for implantable devices or opioids that are for  
41 medication-assisted treatment for substance use disorders.

42 J. The board shall advise the Arizona state board of pharmacy and  
43 the United States drug enforcement administration of all physician  
44 assistants who are authorized to prescribe or dispense drugs and any  
45 modification of their authority.

1 K. The Arizona state board of pharmacy shall notify all pharmacies  
2 at least quarterly of physician assistants who are authorized to prescribe  
3 or dispense drugs.

4 Sec. 3. Section 36-2525, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
5 read:

6 36-2525. Prescription orders; labels; packaging; definition

7 A. In addition to the requirements of section 32-1968 pertaining to  
8 prescription orders for prescription-only drugs, the prescription order  
9 for a controlled substance shall bear the name, address and federal  
10 registration number of the prescriber. A prescription order for a  
11 schedule II controlled substance drug other than a hospital drug order for  
12 a hospital inpatient shall contain only one drug order per prescription  
13 blank. If authorized verbally by the prescriber, the pharmacist may make  
14 changes to correct errors or omissions made by the prescriber on the  
15 following parts of a written or electronic schedule II controlled  
16 substance prescription order:

- 17 1. The date issued.
- 18 2. The strength, dosage form or quantity of drug.
- 19 3. The directions for its use.

20 B. The pharmacist must document on the original prescription order  
21 the changes that were made pursuant to the verbal authorization and record  
22 the time and date the authorization was granted.

23 C. A person who is registered to dispense controlled substances  
24 under this chapter must keep and maintain prescription orders for  
25 controlled substances as follows:

26 1. Prescription orders for controlled substances listed in  
27 schedules I and II must be maintained in a separate prescription file for  
28 controlled substances listed in schedules I and II only.

29 2. Prescription orders for controlled substances listed in  
30 schedules III, IV and V must be maintained either in a separate  
31 prescription file for controlled substances listed in schedules III, IV  
32 and V only or in a form that allows them to be readily retrievable from  
33 the other prescription records of the registrant. For the purposes of  
34 this paragraph, "readily retrievable" means that, when the prescription is  
35 initially filed, the face of the prescription is stamped in red ink in the  
36 lower right corner with the letter "C" in a font that is not less than one  
37 inch high and that the prescription is filed in the usual consecutively  
38 numbered prescription file for noncontrolled substance prescriptions. The  
39 requirement to stamp the hard copy prescription with a red "C" is waived  
40 if a registrant employs an electronic data processing system or other  
41 electronic recordkeeping system for prescriptions that permits  
42 identification by prescription number and retrieval of original documents  
43 by the prescriber's name, patient's name, drug dispensed and date filled.

44 D. Except in emergency situations in conformity with subsection E  
45 of this section, under the conditions specified in subsections F and G of

1 this section or when dispensed directly by a medical practitioner to an  
2 ultimate user, a controlled substance in schedule II shall not be  
3 dispensed without either the written prescription order in ink or  
4 indelible pencil or typewritten and manually signed by the medical  
5 practitioner or an electronic prescription order as prescribed by federal  
6 law or regulation. Beginning January 1, ~~2019~~ 2020, a schedule II  
7 controlled substance that is an opioid may be dispensed ~~in a county with a~~  
8 ~~population of one hundred fifty thousand persons or more only with an~~  
9 ~~electronic prescription order as prescribed by federal law or regulation.~~  
10 ~~Beginning July 1, 2019, a schedule II controlled substance that is an~~  
11 ~~opioid may be dispensed in a county with a population of less than one~~  
12 ~~hundred fifty thousand persons only with an electronic prescription order~~  
13 ~~as prescribed by federal law or regulation.~~ A prescription order for a  
14 schedule II CONTROLLED substance shall not be dispensed more than ninety  
15 days after the date on which the prescription order was  
16 issued. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a pharmacy  
17 may sell and dispense a schedule II controlled substance prescribed by a  
18 medical practitioner who is located in another county in this state or in  
19 another state if the prescription was issued to the patient according to  
20 and in compliance with the applicable laws of the state of the prescribing  
21 medical practitioner and federal law. A prescription order for a schedule  
22 II controlled substance shall not be refilled. A PHARMACIST IS NOT IN  
23 VIOLATION OF THIS SUBSECTION AND MAY DISPENSE A PRESCRIPTION ORDER IN THE  
24 FOLLOWING CIRCUMSTANCES:

25 1. DURING ANY TIME PERIOD IN WHICH AN ESTABLISHED ELECTRONIC  
26 PRESCRIBING SYSTEM OR A PHARMACY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IS NOT OPERATIONAL OR  
27 AVAILABLE IN A TIMELY MANNER. IF THE ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING SYSTEM OR A  
28 PHARMACY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IS NOT OPERATIONAL OR AVAILABLE, THE PHARMACIST  
29 MAY DISPENSE A PRESCRIPTION ORDER THAT IS WRITTEN FOR A SCHEDULE II  
30 CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE THAT IS AN OPIOID. THE PHARMACIST MUST MAINTAIN A  
31 RECORD, FOR A PERIOD OF TIME PRESCRIBED BY THE BOARD, OF WHEN THE  
32 ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING SYSTEM OR PHARMACY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IS NOT  
33 OPERATIONAL OR AVAILABLE IN A TIMELY MANNER.

34 2. THE PRESCRIPTION ORDER FOR A SCHEDULE II CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE  
35 THAT IS AN OPIOID IS IN WRITING AND INDICATES THAT THE MEDICAL  
36 PRACTITIONER WHO ISSUED THE PRESCRIPTION ORDER PROVIDED CARE FOR THE  
37 PATIENT IN A VETERANS ADMINISTRATION FACILITY, A HEALTH FACILITY ON A  
38 MILITARY BASE, AN INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES HOSPITAL OR OTHER INDIAN HEALTH  
39 SERVICE FACILITY, OR A TRIBAL-OWNED CLINIC.

40 E. In emergency situations, emergency quantities of schedule II  
41 controlled substances may be dispensed on an oral prescription order of a  
42 medical practitioner. Such an emergency prescription order shall be  
43 immediately reduced to writing by the pharmacist and shall contain all the  
44 information required for schedule II controlled substances except for the  
45 manual signing of the order by the medical practitioner. Within seven

1 days after authorizing an emergency oral prescription order, the  
2 prescribing medical practitioner shall cause a written prescription order  
3 manually signed for the emergency quantity prescribed to be delivered to  
4 the dispensing pharmacist or an electronic prescription order to be  
5 transmitted to the dispensing pharmacist. In addition to conforming to  
6 other requirements for prescription orders for schedule II controlled  
7 substances, the prescription order shall indicate electronically or have  
8 written on its face "authorization for emergency dispensing" and the date  
9 of the oral order. If the prescribing medical practitioner fails to  
10 deliver such an emergency prescription order within seven days in  
11 conformance with board rules, the pharmacist shall notify the board.  
12 Failure of the pharmacist to notify the board voids the authority  
13 conferred by this subsection to dispense without a prescription order of a  
14 medical practitioner that is electronic or that is written and manually  
15 signed.

16 F. NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTIONS D AND N OF THIS SECTION, ~~the~~  
17 ~~following may be transmitted to a pharmacy by fax by a patient's medical~~  
18 ~~practitioner or the medical practitioner's agent~~ MAY TRANSMIT TO A  
19 PHARMACY BY FAX A PRESCRIPTION ORDER WRITTEN FOR A SCHEDULE II CONTROLLED  
20 SUBSTANCE, INCLUDING OPIOIDS, IF THE PRESCRIPTION ORDER IS ANY OF THE  
21 FOLLOWING:

22 1. ~~A prescription order written for a schedule II controlled~~  
23 ~~substance~~ To be compounded for the direct administration to a patient by  
24 parenteral, intravenous, intramuscular, subcutaneous or intraspinal  
25 infusion.

26 2. ~~A prescription order written for any schedule II controlled~~  
27 ~~substance~~ For a resident of a long-term care facility.

28 3. ~~A prescription order written for a schedule II controlled~~  
29 ~~substance~~ For a patient WHO IS enrolled in a hospice care program that is  
30 certified or paid for by medicare under title XVIII or a hospice program  
31 that is licensed by this state. The medical practitioner or the medical  
32 practitioner's agent must note on the prescription that the patient is a  
33 hospice patient.

34 G. A fax transmitted pursuant to subsection F of this section is  
35 the original written prescription order for purposes of this section and  
36 must be maintained as required by subsection C of this section.

37 H. Except when dispensed directly by a medical practitioner to an  
38 ultimate user, a controlled substance included in schedule III or IV that  
39 requires a prescription order as determined under state or federal laws  
40 shall not be dispensed without a written or oral prescription order of a  
41 medical practitioner or an electronic prescription order as prescribed by  
42 federal law or regulation. The prescription order shall not be filled or  
43 refilled more than six months after the date on which the prescription  
44 order was issued. A prescription order authorized to be refilled shall  
45 not be refilled more than five times. Additional quantities may only be

1 authorized by the prescribing medical practitioner through issuance of a  
2 new prescription order that shall be treated by the pharmacist as a new  
3 and separate prescription order.

4 I. Except when dispensed directly by a medical practitioner to an  
5 ultimate user, a controlled substance that is included in schedule V and  
6 that requires a prescription order as determined under state or federal  
7 laws shall not be dispensed without a written or oral prescription order  
8 of a medical practitioner. The prescription order may be refilled as  
9 authorized by the prescribing medical practitioner but shall not be filled  
10 or refilled more than one year after the date of issuance.

11 J. A controlled substance that is listed in schedule III, IV or V  
12 and that does not require a prescription order as determined under state  
13 or federal laws may be dispensed at retail by a pharmacist or a pharmacy  
14 intern under the pharmacist's supervision without a prescription order to  
15 a purchaser who is at least eighteen years of age if all of the following  
16 are true:

17 1. It is for a legitimate medical purpose.

18 2. Not more than two hundred forty cubic centimeters (eight ounces)  
19 of any such controlled substance containing opium, nor more than one  
20 hundred twenty cubic centimeters (four ounces) of any other such  
21 controlled substance, nor more than forty-eight dosage units of any such  
22 controlled substance containing opium, nor more than twenty-four dosage  
23 units of any other controlled substance may be dispensed at retail to the  
24 same purchaser in any given forty-eight-hour period.

25 3. No more than one hundred dosage units of any single active  
26 ingredient ephedrine preparation may be sold, offered for sale, bartered  
27 or given away to any one person in any one thirty-day period.

28 4. The pharmacist or pharmacy intern requires every purchaser of a  
29 controlled substance under this subsection who is not known to that person  
30 to furnish suitable identification, including proof of age if appropriate.

31 5. A bound record book for dispensing controlled substances under  
32 this subsection is maintained by the pharmacist and contains the name and  
33 address of the purchaser, the name and quantity of the controlled  
34 substance purchased, the date of each purchase and the name or initials of  
35 the pharmacist or pharmacy intern who dispensed the substance to the  
36 purchaser. The book shall be maintained in conformity with the  
37 recordkeeping requirements of section 36-2523.

38 K. In the absence of a law requiring a prescription for a schedule  
39 V controlled substance, the board, by rules, may require, or remove the  
40 requirement of, a prescription order for a schedule V controlled  
41 substance.

42 L. The label on a container of a controlled substance that is  
43 directly dispensed by a medical practitioner or pharmacist and that is not  
44 for the immediate administration to the ultimate user, such as a bed  
45 patient in a hospital, shall bear the name and address of the dispensing

1 medical practitioner or pharmacist, the serial number, the date of  
2 dispensing, the name of the prescriber, the name of the patient or, if an  
3 animal, the name of the owner of the animal and the species of the animal,  
4 the directions for use and cautionary statements, if any, contained in the  
5 prescription order or required by law. If the controlled substance is  
6 included in schedule II, III or IV, the label shall bear a transfer  
7 warning to the effect: "Caution: federal law prohibits the transfer of  
8 this drug to any person other than the patient for whom it was  
9 prescribed". The container of a schedule II controlled substance that is  
10 an opioid that is directly dispensed by a pharmacist and that is not for  
11 the immediate administration to the ultimate user shall have a red cap and  
12 a warning label prescribed by the board about potential addiction. The  
13 board or the executive director, if delegated by the board, may waive the  
14 red cap requirement if implementing the requirement is not feasible  
15 because of the specific dosage form or packaging type.

16 M. Controlled substances in schedules II, III, IV and V may be  
17 dispensed as electronically transmitted prescriptions if the prescribing  
18 medical practitioner is all of the following:

- 19 1. Properly registered by the United States drug enforcement  
20 administration.
- 21 2. Licensed in good standing in the United States jurisdiction in  
22 which the medical practitioner practices.
- 23 3. Authorized to issue such prescriptions in the jurisdiction in  
24 which the medical practitioner is licensed.

25 N. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, beginning  
26 January 1, ~~2019~~ 2020, each prescription order, EXCEPT A PRESCRIPTION ORDER  
27 UNDER SUBSECTION F OF THIS SECTION, that is issued by a medical  
28 practitioner ~~in a county with a population of one hundred fifty thousand~~  
29 ~~persons or more~~ for a schedule II controlled substance that is an opioid  
30 shall be transmitted electronically to the dispensing pharmacy.  
31 ~~Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, beginning July 1,~~  
32 ~~2019, each prescription order that is issued by a medical practitioner in~~  
33 ~~a county with a population of less than one hundred fifty thousand persons~~  
34 ~~for a schedule II controlled substance that is an opioid shall be~~  
35 ~~transmitted electronically to the dispensing pharmacy.~~ A MEDICAL  
36 PRACTITIONER IS NOT IN VIOLATION OF THIS SUBSECTION:

- 37 1. DURING ANY TIME IN WHICH AN ESTABLISHED ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING  
38 SYSTEM OR A PHARMACY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IS NOT OPERATIONAL OR AVAILABLE IN  
39 A TIMELY MANNER. IF THE ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING SYSTEM OR A PHARMACY  
40 MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IS NOT OPERATIONAL OR AVAILABLE, THE MEDICAL  
41 PRACTITIONER MAY WRITE A PRESCRIPTION ORDER FOR A SCHEDULE II CONTROLLED  
42 SUBSTANCE THAT IS AN OPIOID. THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONER SHALL INDICATE ON  
43 THE WRITTEN PRESCRIPTION ORDER THAT THE ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING SYSTEM OR  
44 PHARMACY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IS NOT OPERATIONAL OR AVAILABLE. THE MEDICAL  
45 PRACTITIONER MUST MAINTAIN A RECORD, FOR A PERIOD OF TIME PRESCRIBED BY

1 THE BOARD, OF WHEN THE ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING SYSTEM OR PHARMACY  
2 MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IS NOT OPERATIONAL OR AVAILABLE IN A TIMELY MANNER.

3 2. IF THE MEDICAL PRACTITIONER WRITES A PRESCRIPTION ORDER FOR A  
4 SCHEDULE II CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE THAT IS AN OPIOID THAT WILL BE DISPENSED  
5 FOR THE PATIENT FROM A VETERANS ADMINISTRATION FACILITY, A HEALTH FACILITY  
6 ON A MILITARY BASE, AN INDIAN HEALTH SERVICES HOSPITAL OR OTHER INDIAN  
7 HEALTH SERVICE FACILITY, OR A TRIBAL-OWNED CLINIC.

8 O. The requirement in subsections D and N of this section for an  
9 electronic prescription order does not apply to a prescription order for a  
10 schedule II controlled substance that is an opioid that is issued for  
11 medication-assisted treatment for a substance use disorder.

12 P. The board, by rule, may provide additional requirements for  
13 prescribing and dispensing controlled substances.

14 ~~Q. The board shall establish a process to grant a waiver for the~~  
15 ~~requirement in subsections D and N of this section for electronic~~  
16 ~~prescription orders to a medical practitioner who lacks adequate access to~~  
17 ~~broadband or faces other hardships that prevent the medical practitioner~~  
18 ~~from implementing electronic prescription orders. A pharmacist is not~~  
19 ~~required to verify with a medical practitioner or the board whether the~~  
20 ~~medical practitioner has received a waiver pursuant to this subsection.~~

21 Q. IN CONSULTATION WITH THE TASK FORCE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO  
22 SECTION 36-2603, THE BOARD MAY PRESCRIBE BY RULE ADDITIONAL EXCEPTIONS TO  
23 THE ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN THIS SECTION FOR BOTH  
24 PHARMACISTS AND MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS.

25 R. NOTWITHSTANDING SUBSECTIONS D AND N OF THIS SECTION, A MEDICAL  
26 PRACTITIONER WHO IS LICENSED PURSUANT TO TITLE 32, CHAPTER 21 IS NOT  
27 REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING REQUIREMENTS OF  
28 SUBSECTIONS D AND N OF THIS SECTION UNTIL THE ARIZONA STATE VETERINARY  
29 MEDICAL EXAMINING BOARD DETERMINES THAT ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING SOFTWARE IS  
30 WIDELY AVAILABLE FOR VETERINARIANS AND NOTIFIES THE ARIZONA STATE BOARD OF  
31 PHARMACY OF THAT DETERMINATION.

32 ~~R.~~ S. For the purposes of this section, "medication-assisted  
33 treatment" has the same meaning prescribed in section 32-3201.01.

34 Sec. 4. Section 36-2603, Arizona Revised Statutes, is amended to  
35 read:

36 36-2603. Computerized central database tracking system task  
37 force; consultation on electronic prescribing;  
38 membership

39 A. The board shall appoint a task force to help it administer the  
40 computerized central database tracking system, TO IDENTIFY EDUCATIONAL,  
41 OUTREACH AND SUPPORT SERVICES TO ADVANCE MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS' ADOPTION  
42 OF ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING OF SCHEDULE II CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AND  
43 PHARMACY IMPLEMENTATION OF SECTION 36-2525 AND TO CONSULT WITH REGARDING  
44 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EXCEPTIONS TO THE ELECTRONIC PRESCRIBING REQUIREMENTS

1 PRESCRIBED IN SECTION 36-2525. The chairperson of the board shall chair  
2 the task force. The task force shall include the following members:  
3 1. Pharmacists, medical practitioners and other licensed health  
4 care providers.  
5 2. Representatives of professional societies and associations for  
6 pharmacists, medical practitioners and other licensed health care  
7 providers.  
8 3. Representatives of professional licensing boards.  
9 4. Representatives of the Arizona health care cost containment  
10 system administration.  
11 5. Representatives of state and federal agencies that have an  
12 interest in ~~the control of~~ CONTROLLING controlled substances.  
13 6. Criminal prosecutors.  
14 7. REPRESENTATIVES OF A HEALTH INFORMATION ORGANIZATION IN THIS  
15 STATE.  
16 B. The task force shall meet to establish the procedures and  
17 conditions relating to the release of prescription information pursuant to  
18 section 36-2604. The task force shall meet at least once each year and at  
19 the call of the chairperson.  
20 C. Task force members serve at the pleasure of the board and are  
21 not eligible to receive compensation or reimbursement of expenses.  
22 Sec. 5. Retroactivity  
23 Section 36-2525, Arizona Revised Statutes, as amended by this act,  
24 applies retroactively to from and after December 31, 2018.  
25 Sec. 6. Emergency  
26 This act is an emergency measure that is necessary to preserve the  
27 public peace, health or safety and is operative immediately as provided by  
28 law.

**APPROVED BY THE GOVERNOR FEBRUARY 14, 2019.**

**FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE FEBRUARY 14, 2019.**

Passed the House January 31, 20 19

by the following vote: 60 Ayes,

0 Nays, 0 Not Voting

[Signature]  
Speaker of the House

Pro Tempore

[Signature]  
Chief Clerk of the House

Passed the Senate February 11, 20 19

by the following vote: 30 Ayes,

0 Nays, 0 Not Voting

[Signature]  
President of the Senate

[Signature]  
Secretary of the Senate

*with Emergency*

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA  
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR

This Bill received by the Governor this

12 day of February, 20 19

at 11:00 o'clock A M.

[Signature]  
Secretary to the Governor

Approved this 14<sup>th</sup> day of

February

at 9:15 o'clock A M.

[Signature]  
Governor of Arizona

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA  
OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

This Bill received by the Secretary of State

this 14 day of February, 20 19

at 10:12 o'clock A. M.

[Signature]  
Secretary of State

H.B. 2075