STATE OF NEW YORK

10238

IN SENATE

May 7, 2026

Introduced by Sen. GOUNARDES -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Higher Education

AN ACT to amend the education law, in relation to requiring the registration of chain and community pharmacies

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 6808 of the education law is amended by adding a new subdivision 3 to read as follows:

3. Chain and community pharmacies; registration. a. Definitions. For the purposes of this subdivision:

(1) "Chain pharmacy" means a publicly traded company having at least twenty licensed pharmacies in New York state under the same ownership.

(2) "Community pharmacy" means privately held company having fewer than twenty licensed pharmacies in New York state under the same ownership.

b. Community pharmacy exceptions. The following pharmacies shall not be considered a community pharmacy:

(1) government-owned.

(2) hospital-owned.

(3) owned by a supermarket or other general merchandise store.

(4) an extension of a medical practice, urgent care, outpatient medical clinic, or outpatient surgical center.

(5) owned by a corporate chain of pharmacies with stores outside of the state.

(6) a mail-order pharmacy.

(7) a pharmacy owned by a pharmacy benefit manager or health insurer.

c. Obtaining a designation. Each chain or community pharmacy shall be designated as a chain or community pharmacy pursuant to an application by the pharmacy ownership on a form to be prescribed by the department. The designation shall be renewed every three years. The application shall be accompanied by a fee of five hundred dollars.

§ 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed on or before such effective date.

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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