STATE OF NEW YORK

1740

2025-2026 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 13, 2025

Introduced by Sen. MARTINEZ -- 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 prescription drug label accessibility

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

Section 1. The education law is amended by adding a new section 6810-a to read as follows:

§ 6810-a. Prescription drug label accessibility. 1. All pharmacies with the exception of those cited in subdivision three of this section shall provide prescription drug readers or other means of access to individuals who disclose they have difficulty seeing or reading standard print labels on prescription drug containers. For the purposes of this section, "prescription drug reader" shall mean a device which is capable of audibly conveying information contained on the label of a prescription drug.

2. This section shall require pharmacies to:

(a) Ensure the prescription drug reader is dispensed for at least the duration of the individual's prescription;

(b) Ensure the prescription drug reader comes at no additional cost to the individual;

(c) Make sustained, periodic and reasonable efforts to inform the general public that prescription drug label information is available in alternative accessible formats;

(d) Make sustained, periodic and reasonable efforts to inform individuals with prior records of low visibility and blindness that prescription drug readers or other means of access are available in alternative accessible formats; and

(e) Consult best practice standards established by the U.S. Access Board.

3. The provisions of this section shall not apply to:

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

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(a) A pharmacy which operates as a sole proprietorship;
(b) A pharmacy located in a correctional facility; or
(c) A pharmacy occupied by a government entity.
4. The state board of pharmacy shall adopt any rules or regulations necessary for implementation of this section no later than December thirty-first, two thousand twenty-seven.

§ 2. This act shall take effect immediately.