

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2021

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HOUSE BILL 683

Short Title: Prescription Drug Disposal/John's Law. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Sasser.

For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Health, if favorable, Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

April 27, 2021

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT REQUIRING PHARMACIES TO PROVIDE PATIENTS WITH WRITTEN
3 INFORMATIONAL MATERIALS ON PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISPOSAL AND TO
4 MAKE AVAILABLE ON-SITE AT LEAST ONE CONSUMER METHOD FOR
5 PRESCRIPTION DRUG DISPOSAL.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** Article 5 of Chapter 90 of the General Statutes is amended by adding
8 a new section to read:

9 "**§ 90-106.5. Pharmacies to provide prescription drug disposal information and at least one**
10 **on-site method of disposal.**

11 (a) As used in this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

12 (1) Active ingredient. – As defined in 21 C.F.R. § 210.3(b)(7), as amended.

13 (2) Controlled substance. – As defined in G.S. 90-87. The term also includes any
14 drug or medication identified for inclusion in this section by the Commission
15 for Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities, and Substance Abuse
16 Services.

17 (b) Each pharmacy that dispenses a controlled substance to a patient shall, at the time of
18 dispensation, do all of the following:

19 (1) Provide the patient with written informational materials on all of the
20 following:

21 a. An explanation of how to properly, safely, and promptly discard
22 unused, unwanted, or expired drugs and medications. These
23 informational materials shall include available drug disposal options.

24 b. An explanation of at least the following risks for failure to properly,
25 safely, and promptly discard unused, unwanted, or expired drugs and
26 medications:

27 1. That the drug or medication can be stolen, diverted, abused,
28 misused, or accidentally ingested, which can pose a risk to the
29 health and safety of the patient and other members of the
30 patient's household.

31 2. That children are particularly at risk of accidentally ingesting
32 unused, unwanted, and expired medications that have not been
33 properly, safely, and promptly discarded.

34 3. That drugs or medications discarded in the household trash or
35 flushed down the drain can leach into the ecosystem, which can



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