

1 SB184  
2 126078-1  
3 By Senators Bedford, Pittman, Ross, Beasley, Irons, Figures,  
4 Brewbaker and Keahey  
5 RFD: Health  
6 First Read: 07-FEB-12

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, controlled substances  
9 may only be sold by prescription. Under existing  
10 law, the State Board of Health has the authority to  
11 add, delete, or reschedule substances as controlled  
12 substances, but the board must exclude a  
13 nonnarcotic substance from a schedule if the  
14 substance may lawfully be sold over the counter  
15 without a prescription pursuant to federal law.

16 This bill would allow ephedrine,  
17 pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine to be sold  
18 by prescription by requiring the State Board of  
19 Health to classify the drugs as Schedule III  
20 controlled substances. This bill would give the  
21 board the authority to exempt a product containing  
22 any of these substances from classification as a  
23 controlled substance if the board finds that the  
24 product is effectively formulated to prevent  
25 conversion of the active ingredient into  
26 methamphetamine or its salts or precursors. This

1 bill would also authorize the board to revoke the  
2 exemption upon notification from the Department of  
3 Public Safety that the product exempted is not  
4 effectively formulated to prevent its conversion to  
5 methamphetamine.

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7 A BILL  
8 TO BE ENTITLED  
9 AN ACT

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11 To amend Sections 20-2-20 and 20-2-181, Code of  
12 Alabama 1975; to require the State Board of Health to classify  
13 ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine as  
14 controlled substances; to authorize the board to exempt from  
15 classification products that are effectively formulated to  
16 prevent their conversion to methamphetamine; and to authorize  
17 the board to revoke the exemption.

18 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

19 Section 1. Sections 20-2-20 and 20-2-181, Code of  
20 Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

21 "§20-2-20.

22 "(a) The State Board of Health, unless otherwise  
23 specified, shall administer this chapter and may add  
24 substances to or delete or reschedule all substances  
25 enumerated in the schedules in Sections 20-2-23, 20-2-25,  
26 20-2-27, 20-2-29, or 20-2-31 pursuant to the procedures of the

1 State Board of Health. In making a determination regarding a  
2 substance, the State Board of Health shall consider all of the  
3 following:

4 "(1) The actual or relative potential for abuse.

5 "(2) The scientific evidence of its pharmacological  
6 effect, if known.

7 "(3) The state of current scientific knowledge  
8 regarding the substance.

9 "(4) The history and current pattern of abuse.

10 "(5) The scope, duration, and significance of abuse.

11 "(6) The risk to the public health.

12 "(7) The potential of the substance to produce  
13 psychic or physiological dependence liability.

14 "(8) Whether the substance is an immediate precursor  
15 of a substance already controlled under this chapter.

16 "(b) After considering the factors enumerated in  
17 subsection (a), the State Board of Health shall make findings  
18 with respect thereto and issue a rule controlling the  
19 substance if it finds the substance has a potential for abuse.

20 "(c) If any substance is designated, rescheduled, or  
21 deleted as a controlled substance under federal law and notice  
22 thereof is given to the State Board of Health, the State Board  
23 of Health shall similarly control the substance under this  
24 chapter after the expiration of 30 days from publication in  
25 the federal register of a final order designating a substance  
26 as a controlled substance or rescheduling or deleting a

1 substance, unless within that 30-day period, the State Board  
2 of Health objects to inclusion, rescheduling, or deletion. In  
3 that case, the State Board of Health shall publish the reasons  
4 for objection and afford all interested parties an opportunity  
5 to be heard. At the conclusion of the hearing, the State Board  
6 of Health shall publish its decision, which shall be final  
7 unless altered by statute. Upon publication of objection to  
8 inclusion, rescheduling, or deletion under this chapter by the  
9 State Board of Health, control under this chapter is stayed  
10 until the State Board of Health publishes its decision.

11 "(d) Authority to control under this section does  
12 not extend to distilled spirits, wine, malt, beverages, or  
13 tobacco.

14 "(e) The State Board of Health shall exclude any  
15 nonnarcotic substance from a schedule if such substance, under  
16 the federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act, the federal  
17 Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970,  
18 and the law of this state may be lawfully sold over the  
19 counter without a prescription.

20 "(f) (1) Notwithstanding subsection (e), the State  
21 Board of Health shall classify ephedrine, pseudophedrine, and  
22 phenylpropanolamine as Schedule III controlled substances  
23 pursuant to this chapter.

24 "(2) Upon application of a manufacturer, the State  
25 Board of Health may exempt from classification as a controlled  
26 substance a product containing ephedrine, pseudophedrine, or

1 phenylpropanolamine if the product is effectively formulated  
2 to prevent conversion of the active ingredient into  
3 methamphetamine or its salts or precursors. Upon notification  
4 from the Department of Public Safety that it has probable  
5 cause to believe that a product exempted under this  
6 subdivision does not effectively prevent conversion of the  
7 active ingredient into methamphetamine or its salts or  
8 precursors, the State Board of Health may issue an emergency  
9 rule revoking the exemption for the product pending a hearing.

10 "§20-2-181.

11 "(a) The Board of Pharmacy ~~shall~~, within one year of  
12 July 29, 1991, shall designate by rule listed precursor  
13 chemicals.

14 "(b) The Board of Pharmacy may subsequently by rule  
15 add chemicals as listed precursor chemicals following the  
16 criteria set forth in subdivision (2) of Section 20-2-180, and  
17 may also by rule delete any substance previously named as a  
18 listed precursor chemical. In no event shall a chemical also  
19 be designated as a listed precursor chemical if it has been  
20 determined to be a controlled substance or an immediate  
21 precursor chemical pursuant to the Alabama Uniform Controlled  
22 Substances Act, Section 20-2-1 et seq.

23 "(c) If any chemical is designated or deleted as a  
24 listed precursor chemical under federal law and notice thereof  
25 is given to the Board of Pharmacy, the board shall similarly  
26 list or delete the substance under this article after the

1 expiration of 30 days from publication in the federal register  
2 of a final rule or order designating or deleting such  
3 substance as a listed precursor chemical, unless, within 30  
4 days from publication in the federal register of the final  
5 rule or order, the board objects to the designation or  
6 deletion. In that case, the board shall publish the reasons  
7 for objection in the Alabama Administrative Monthly and shall  
8 afford all interested parties an opportunity to submit written  
9 comments and to be heard. At the conclusion of the hearing and  
10 the comment period, the State Board of Pharmacy shall publish  
11 its decision, which shall be final unless altered by statute.  
12 Upon publication of an objection to the designation or  
13 deletion by the board, the designation or deletion is stayed  
14 until the board publishes its decision. Notwithstanding the  
15 ~~provisions of the~~ Alabama Administrative Procedure Act,  
16 Sections 41-22-1 through 41-22-27, no further rulemaking or  
17 administrative proceedings shall be required of the board with  
18 respect to the designation or deletion of substances similarly  
19 designated or deleted under federal law.

20 "(d) Until the Board of Pharmacy adopts a rule  
21 designating listed precursor chemicals, as required by  
22 subsection (a), all of the following chemicals or substances  
23 are hereby deemed listed precursor chemicals:

24 "(1) Acetic anhydride~~†~~.

25 "(2) Anthranilic acid and its salts~~†~~.

26 "(3) Benzyl cyanide~~†~~.

1                   "~~(4) Ephedrine, its salts, optical isomers, and~~  
2 ~~salts of optical isomers;~~

3                   "~~(5) (4) Ergonovine and its salts~~.".

4                   "~~(6) (5) Ergotamine and its salts~~.".

5                   "~~(7) (6) Hydriodic acid~~.".

6                   "~~(8) (7) Isosafrol~~.".

7                   "~~(9) (8) Methylamine~~.".

8                   "~~(10) (9) N-Acetylanthranilic acid and its salts~~.".

9                   "~~(11) (10) Norpseudoeephedrine, its salts, optical~~  
10 ~~isomers, and salts of optical isomers~~.".

11                   "~~(12) (11) Phenylacetic acid and its salts~~.".

12                   "~~(13) Phenylpropanolamine, its salts, optical~~  
13 ~~isomers, and salts of optical isomers;~~

14                   "~~(14) (12) Piperidine and its salts~~.".

15                   "~~(15) Pseudoeephedrine, its salts, optical isomers,~~  
16 ~~and salts of optical isomers;~~

17                   "~~(16) (13) Safrole; and~~.".

18                   "~~(17) (14) 3,4-Methylenedioxyphenyl-2-propanone."~~

19                   Section 2. This act shall become effective on the  
20 first day of the third month following its passage and  
21 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.