

**Bill Summary**  
1<sup>st</sup> Session of the 57<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>SB 848</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>INT</b>
<b>Request No.:</b>	<b>140</b>
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**Bill Analysis**

SB 848 directs pharmacists to fill a prescription for a Schedule II drug to the exact parameters described in the prescription order. The Board is prohibited from referring a case to law enforcement until an adverse finding by the Board has occurred. Any expert testifying against a licensee shall be a Board-certified physician practicing the specialty of the licensee named in the complaint. The measure strikes language allowing the Board to review a physician's prescription practices with regards to prescribing opioids in excess of the maximum dosage. The measure also removes the requirement for a patient-provider agreement to be created when the physician prescribes any opioid.

The measure also modifies continuing education requirements for licensees of the State Board of Medical Licensure by requiring the education course to be Board certified. Continuing education courses shall include one hour on pain management and one hour on opioid use and addiction.

The measure requires, rather than permits, the Board to consider the suspension of a licensee who fails to access the central repository. Unless a prescribed opioid or pain treatment is classified as a Schedule II drug, the measure strikes the requirement for the prescription to be capped at a seven day supply and does not require a pain management prescription to be prescribed at the lowest effective dose. The measure enumerates acceptable circumstances wherein a Schedule II may be prescribed for pain.

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