

# HOUSE BILL 988

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7lr2675

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By: **Delegate Kipke**

Introduced and read first time: February 8, 2017

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

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## A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Licensed Pharmacists – Risks of Opioid Addiction – Notifications**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring a licensed pharmacist, if an opioid is dispensed by a licensed  
4 pharmacist or an individual engaging in a certain program and acting under the  
5 direct supervision of a licensed pharmacist, to notify the individual to whom the  
6 opioid is dispensed of the risks of opioid addiction; providing that the notice may be  
7 made orally or in writing; and generally relating to notifications of the risks of opioid  
8 addiction by licensed pharmacists.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,  
10 Article – Health Occupations  
11 Section 12–502  
12 Annotated Code of Maryland  
13 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2016 Supplement)

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,  
15 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

16 **Article – Health Occupations**

17 12–502.

18 (a) In the operation of a pharmacy, only a licensed pharmacist or an individual  
19 engaging in a professional experience program and acting under the direct supervision of a  
20 licensed pharmacist may provide information to the public or a health care practitioner  
21 concerning prescription or nonprescription drugs or devices including information as to  
22 their therapeutic values, potential side effects, and use in the treatment and prevention of  
23 diseases.

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 (b) A licensed pharmacist shall give a patient who requests, in person or by  
2 telephone, the current price of a prescription drug or device that the pharmacy offers for  
3 sale to the public.

4 (c) (1) IF A LICENSED PHARMACIST OR AN INDIVIDUAL ENGAGING IN A  
5 PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE PROGRAM AND ACTING UNDER THE DIRECT  
6 SUPERVISION OF A LICENSED PHARMACIST DISPENSES AN OPIOID, A LICENSED  
7 PHARMACIST SHALL NOTIFY THE INDIVIDUAL TO WHOM THE OPIOID IS DISPENSED  
8 OF THE RISKS OF OPIOID ADDICTION.

9 (2) THE NOTIFICATION REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS  
10 SUBSECTION MAY BE MADE ORALLY OR IN WRITING.

11 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
12 October 1, 2017.