



# Louisiana Board of Pharmacy

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## BULLETIN No. 04-01

To: Pharmacists  
From: Malcolm Broussard  
Date: September 1, 2004  
Re: Recent Changes in Pharmacy Laws

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During the Regular Session of the 2004 Louisiana Legislature, several bills were adopted that impact pharmacy practice.

Act No. 10 (HB 1140) provides prescriptive authority to certain physician assistants, including for controlled substances in Schedules III through V. Though this law became effective August 15, the Board of Medical Examiners has not yet drafted and promulgated the new regulations to govern the process. Therefore, there is still no authority for physician assistants to prescribe medications. We will keep you posted on this topic as it develops.

Act No. 11 (HB 1426) allows certain medical psychologists to prescribe and distribute certain drugs, including certain controlled substances. Though this law became effective August 15, the Board of Examiners of Psychologists has not yet drafted and promulgated the new regulations to govern the process. Therefore, there is still no authority for medical psychologists to prescribe medications. We will keep you posted on this topic as it develops.

Act No. 131 (HB 698) changed the section of the Pharmacy Practice Act that governs pharmacy technicians by placing limitations on the scope of practice for technicians. Specifically, the law now permits technicians to assist pharmacists in the manner defined by Board regulations. The Board is currently in the process of promulgating new regulations for pharmacy technicians; we anticipate the effective date of those new regulations to be January 1, 2005.

Act No. 811 (HB 1402) changed the section of the Pharmacy Practice Act that governs the donation and transfer of previously-dispensed prescription medications to charitable pharmacies. The previous law limited the sources of such donations to nursing homes; the new law allows more sources for donations. That law became effective August 15.

We are preparing an update to the *Louisiana Board of Pharmacy Laws and Regulations*. If you have a subscription to that reference book, you will receive it automatically as soon as it is released. In the interim, you can obtain a copy of the new laws at the Louisiana Legislature's website, at [www.legis.state.la.us](http://www.legis.state.la.us).