

ENGROSSED  
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

FOR

**Senate Bill No. 588**

(By Senators Palumbo, Stollings, Plymale, Jenkins and Barnes)

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[Originating in the Committee on the Judiciary;  
reported February 24, 2012.]

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A BILL to repeal §60A-8-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended; to amend and reenact §60A-8-3, §60A-8-5 and §60A-8-7 of said code; and to amend said code by adding thereto three new sections, designated §60A-8-14, §60A-8-15 and §60A-8-16, all relating generally to wholesale drug distributors licensed by Board of Pharmacy; specifying purpose of article; defining terms; specifying wholesale drug distributor licensing requirements; specifying powers of Board of Pharmacy; increasing licensing fees; requiring updates when material changes occur to a licensee; authorizing board to take certain

disciplinary action against licensees, including revocation or suspension of licenses, refusal to renew license and civil penalties; providing for register of wholesale and pharmacy distributors of prescription drugs; and providing for the disposition of fees.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:*

That §60A-8-4 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be repealed; that §60A-8-3, §60A-8-5 and §60A-8-7 of said code be amended and reenacted; and that said code be amended by adding thereto three new sections, designated §60A-8-14, §60A-8-15 and §60A-8-16, all to read as follows:

**ARTICLE 8. WHOLESALE DRUG DISTRIBUTION LICENSING ACT  
OF 1991.**

**§60A-8-3. Purpose.**

1       The purpose of this article is to protect the health, safety  
2 and general welfare of residents of this state and to imple-  
3 ment the federal Prescription Drug Marketing Act of 1987  
4 (“PDMA”), U. S. Public Law 100-293, 102 Stat. 95, codified  
5 at 21 U. S. Code §321; and particularly PDMA requirements  
6 that no person or entity may engage in the wholesale distri-  
7 bution of human prescription drugs in any state unless such  
8 person or entity is licensed by such state in accordance with

9 federally-prescribed minimum standards, terms and condi-  
10 tions as set forth in guidelines issued by United States food  
11 and drug administration (FDA) regulations pursuant to 21 U.  
12 S. Code §353(e)(2)(A) and (B); and such regulations as are set  
13 forth in 21 C. F. R. Part 205.

**§60A-8-5. Definitions.**

1 As used in this article:

2 (a) “Wholesale distribution” and “wholesale distribu-  
3 tions” mean distribution of prescription drugs, including  
4 directly or through the use of a third-party logistics provider  
5 or any other situation in which title, ownership or control  
6 over the prescription drug remains with one person or entity  
7 but the prescription drug is brought into this state by  
8 another person or entity on his, her or its behalf, to persons  
9 other than a consumer or patient, but does not include:

10 (1) Intracompany sales, being defined as any transaction,  
11 ~~or~~ transfer or delivery into or within this state between any  
12 division, subsidiary, parent and/or affiliated or related  
13 company under the common ownership and control of a  
14 corporate entity;

15 (2) The purchase or other acquisition by a hospital or  
16 other health care entity that is a member of a group purchas-

17 ing organization of a drug for its own use from the group  
18 purchasing organization or from other hospitals or health  
19 care entities that are members of such organizations;

20 (3) The sale, purchase or trade of a drug or an offer to  
21 sell, purchase or trade a drug by a charitable organization  
22 described in section 501(c)(3) of the United States Internal  
23 Revenue Code of ~~1954~~ 1986 to a nonprofit affiliate of the  
24 organization to the extent otherwise permitted by law;

25 (4) The sale, purchase or trade of a drug or an offer to  
26 sell, purchase or trade a drug among hospitals or other  
27 health care entities that are under common control. For  
28 purposes of this article, “common control” means the power  
29 to direct or cause the direction of the management and  
30 policies of a person or an organization, whether by owner-  
31 ship of stock, voting rights, by contract, or otherwise;

32 (5) The sale, purchase or trade of a drug or an offer to  
33 sell, purchase or trade a drug for “emergency medical  
34 reasons” for purposes of this article includes transfers of  
35 prescription drugs by a retail pharmacy to another retail  
36 pharmacy to alleviate a temporary shortage, except that the  
37 gross dollar value of such transfers shall not exceed five  
38 percent of the total prescription drug sales revenue of either

39 the transferor or ~~transferee~~ transferee pharmacy during any  
40 twelve consecutive month period;

41 (6) The sale, purchase or trade of a drug, an offer to sell,  
42 purchase, or trade a drug or the dispensing of a drug pursu-  
43 ant to a prescription;

44 (7) The distribution of drug samples by manufacturers'  
45 representatives or distributors' representatives, if the  
46 distribution is permitted under federal law [21 U. S. C.  
47 353(d)]; or

48 (8) The sale, purchase or trade of blood and blood  
49 components intended for transfusion.

50 (b) "Wholesale drug distributor" or "wholesale distribu-  
51 tor" means any person or entity engaged in wholesale  
52 distribution of prescription drugs, including, but not limited  
53 to, manufacturers, repackers, own-label distributors,  
54 jobbers, private-label distributors, brokers, warehouses,  
55 including manufacturers' and distributors' warehouses,  
56 chain drug warehouses and wholesale drug warehouses,  
57 independent wholesale drug traders, prescription drug  
58 repackagers, physicians, dentists, veterinarians, birth control  
59 and other clinics, individuals, hospitals, nursing homes  
60 and/or their providers, health maintenance organizations

61 and other health care providers, and retail and hospital  
62 pharmacies that conduct wholesale distributions, including,  
63 but not limited to, any pharmacy distributor as defined in  
64 this section. A wholesale drug distributor shall not include  
65 any for hire carrier or person or entity hired solely to  
66 transport prescription drugs.

67 (c) "Pharmacy distributor" means any pharmacy licensed  
68 in this state or hospital pharmacy which is engaged in the  
69 delivery or distribution of prescription drugs either to any  
70 other pharmacy licensed in this state or to any other person  
71 or entity, including, but not limited to, a wholesale drug  
72 distributor as defined in subdivision (b) of this section  
73 engaged in the delivery or distribution of prescription drugs  
74 and who is involved in the actual, constructive or attempted  
75 transfer of a drug in this state to other than the ultimate  
76 consumer except as otherwise provided for by law.

77 (d) "Manufacturer" means ~~anyone~~ any person who is  
78 engaged in manufacturing, preparing, propagating, com-  
79 pounding, processing, packaging, repackaging or labeling of  
80 a prescription drug, whether within or outside this state.

81 (e) "West Virginia Board of Pharmacy", "Board of  
82 Pharmacy" or "board" means the agency of this state

83 authorized to license wholesale drug distribution except  
84 where otherwise provided.

85 (f) "Prescription drug" means any human drug required  
86 by federal law or regulation to be dispensed only by pre-  
87 scription, including finished dosage forms and active  
88 ingredients subject to section 503(b) of the federal food, drug  
89 and cosmetic act.

90 (g) "Blood" means whole blood collected from a single  
91 donor and processed either for transfusion or further  
92 manufacturing.

93 (h) "Blood component" means that part of blood sepa-  
94 rated by physical or mechanical means.

95 (i) "Drug sample" means a unit of a prescription drug  
96 that is not intended to be sold and is intended to promote the  
97 sale of the drug.

98 (j) "Person" means any individual, partnership, associa-  
99 tion, limited liability company, corporation or other entity.

100 (k) "Key person" means any of the following:

101 (1) An officer, director, trustee, partner, principal or  
102 proprietor of a person that has applied for or holds a license  
103 issued under this article or an affiliate or holding company  
104 that has control of a person that has applied for or holds a

105 license under this article.

106 (2) A person that holds a combined direct, indirect or  
107 attributed debt or equity interest of more than five percent  
108 in a person that has applied for or holds a license under this  
109 article;

110 (3) A person that holds a combined direct, indirect or  
111 attributed equity interest of more than five percent in a  
112 person that has a controlling interest in a person that has  
113 applied for or holds license under this article;

114 (4) A managerial employee of a person that has applied  
115 for or holds a license under this article or a managerial  
116 employee of an affiliate or holding company that has control  
117 of a person that has applied for or holds a license under this  
118 article, who performs the function of principal executive  
119 officer, principal operating officer, principal accounting  
120 officer or an equivalent officer;

121 (5) A managerial employee of a person that has applied  
122 for or holds a license under this article or a managerial  
123 employee of an affiliate or holding company that has control  
124 of a person that has applied for or holds a license under this  
125 article who will perform or performs the function of an  
126 operations manager or will exercise or exercises manage-



127 ment, supervisory or policy-making authority over the  
128 distribution of prescription drugs.

129 (l) “Third-party logistics provider” means a person who  
130 contracts with a prescription drug manufacturer to provide  
131 or coordinate warehousing, distribution or other services on  
132 behalf of a manufacturer, but does not take title to the  
133 prescription drug or have general responsibility to direct the  
134 prescription drug’s sale or disposition. A third-party logistics  
135 provider must be licensed as a wholesale distributor under  
136 this article and, in order to be considered part of the normal  
137 distribution channel, must also be an authorized distributor  
138 of record.

**§60A-8-7. Wholesale drug distributor licensing requirements.**

1 (a) Every applicant for a license under this article shall  
2 provide the board with the following as part of the applica-  
3 tion for a license and as part of any renewal of such license:

4 (1) The name, full business address and telephone  
5 number of the licensee;

6 (2) All trade or business names used by the licensee;

7 (3) Addresses, telephone numbers and the names of  
8 contact persons for all facilities used by the licensee for the  
9 storage, handling and distribution of prescription drugs;

10       (4) The type of ownership or operation (i.e., partnership,  
11 corporation or sole proprietorship);

12       (5) The name(s) of the owner and operator, or both, of the  
13 licensee, including:

14       (A) If a person, the name of the person;

15       (B) If a partnership, the name of each partner and the  
16 name of the partnership;

17       (C) If a corporation, the name and title of each corporate  
18 officer and director, the corporate names and the name of the  
19 state of incorporation; and

20       (D) If a sole proprietorship, the full name of the sole  
21 proprietor and the name of the business entity; and

22       (6) Any other information or documentation that the  
23 board may require.

24       (b) All wholesale distributors and pharmacy distributors  
25 shall be subject to the following requirements:

26       (a) (1) No person or distribution outlet may act as a  
27 wholesale drug distributor without first obtaining a license  
28 to do so from the Board of Pharmacy and paying any reason-  
29 able fee required by the Board of Pharmacy, such fee not to  
30 exceed four hundred dollars per year: *Provided, That for*  
31 licenses that are effective on and after July 1, 2012, the

32 annual fee shall be \$750 per license until modified by  
33 legislative rule.

34 (b) (2) The Board of Pharmacy may grant a temporary  
35 license when a wholesale drug distributor first applies to the  
36 board for a wholesale drug distributor's license to operate  
37 ~~within this state~~ and the temporary license shall remain  
38 valid until the Board of Pharmacy finds that the applicant  
39 meets or fails to meet the requirements for regular licensure,  
40 except that no temporary license shall be valid for more than  
41 ninety days from the date of issuance. Any temporary license  
42 issued pursuant to this subdivision shall be renewable for a  
43 similar period of time not to exceed ninety days pursuant to  
44 policies and procedures to be prescribed by the Board of  
45 Pharmacy.

46 (c) (3) No license may be issued or renewed for a whole-  
47 sale drug distributor to operate unless the distributor  
48 operates in a manner prescribed by law and according to the  
49 rules promulgated by the Board of Pharmacy with respect  
50 thereto.

51 (d) (4) The Board of Pharmacy may require a separate  
52 license for each facility directly or indirectly owned or  
53 operated by the same business entity within this state, or for

54 a parent entity with divisions, subsidiaries, or affiliate  
55 companies within this state when operations are conducted  
56 at more than one location and there exists joint ownership  
57 and control among all the entities.

58 ~~(e)~~ (c) The minimum qualifications for licensure are set  
59 forth in this section as follows:

60 (1) As a condition for receiving and retaining any  
61 wholesale drug distributor license issued pursuant to this  
62 article, each applicant shall satisfy the Board of Pharmacy  
63 that it has and will continuously maintain:

64 (A) Acceptable storage and handling conditions plus  
65 facilities standards;

66 (B) Minimum liability and other insurance as may be  
67 required under any applicable federal or state law;

68 (C) A security system which includes after hours central  
69 alarm or comparable entry detection capability, restricted  
70 premises access, adequate outside perimeter lighting,  
71 comprehensive employment applicant screening and safe-  
72 guards against employee theft;

73 (D) An electronic, manual or any other reasonable system  
74 of records describing all wholesale distributor activities  
75 governed by this article for the two-year period following

76 disposition of each product and being reasonably accessible  
77 as defined by Board of Pharmacy regulations during any  
78 inspection authorized by the Board of Pharmacy;

79 (E) Officers, directors, managers and other persons in  
80 charge of wholesale drug distribution, storage and handling,  
81 who must at all times demonstrate and maintain their  
82 capability of conducting business according to sound  
83 financial practices as well as state and federal law;

84 (F) Complete, updated information to be provided to the  
85 Board of Pharmacy as a condition for obtaining and retain-  
86 ing a license about each wholesale distributor to be licensed  
87 under this article including all pertinent licensee ownership  
88 and other key personnel and facilities information deter-  
89 mined necessary for enforcement of this article; ~~with any~~  
90 ~~changes in the information to be submitted at the time of~~  
91 ~~license renewal or within twelve months from the date of the~~  
92 ~~change, whichever occurs first;~~

93 (G) Written policies and procedures which assure  
94 reasonable wholesale distributor preparation for protection  
95 against and handling of any facility security or operation  
96 problems, including, but not limited to, those caused by  
97 natural disaster or government emergency, inventory

98 inaccuracies or product shipping and receiving, outdated  
99 product or other unauthorized product control, appropriate  
100 disposition of returned goods and product recalls;

101 (H) Sufficient inspection procedures for all incoming and  
102 outgoing product shipments; and

103 (I) Operations in compliance with all federal legal  
104 requirements applicable to wholesale drug distribution.

105 (2) The board of pharmacy shall consider, at a minimum,  
106 the following factors in reviewing the qualifications of  
107 persons who ~~engage in wholesale distribution of prescription~~  
108 ~~drugs with this state~~ apply for a wholesale distributor license  
109 under this section or for renewal of that license:

110 (A) Any conviction of the applicant under any federal,  
111 state or local laws relating to drug samples, wholesale or  
112 retail drug distribution or distribution of controlled sub-  
113 stances;

114 (B) Any felony convictions of the applicant or any key  
115 person under federal, state or local laws;

116 (C) The applicant's past experience in the manufacture  
117 or distribution of prescription drugs, including, but not  
118 limited to, controlled substances;

119 (D) The furnishing by the applicant of false or fraudulent  
120 material in any application made in connection with drug  
121 manufacturing or distribution;

122 (E) Suspension or revocation by federal, state or local  
123 government of any license currently or previously held by the  
124 applicant for the manufacture or distribution of any drug,  
125 including, but not limited to, controlled substances;

126 (F) Compliance with licensing requirements under  
127 previously granted licenses, if any;

128 (G) Whether personnel employed by the applicant in  
129 wholesale drug distribution have appropriate education or  
130 experience, or both education and experience, to assume  
131 responsibility for positions related to compliance with the  
132 requirements of this article;

133 ~~(G)~~ (H) Compliance with requirements to maintain and  
134 make available to the Board of Pharmacy or to federal, state  
135 or local law-enforcement officials those records required by  
136 this article; and

137 ~~(H)~~ (I) Any other factors or qualifications the Board of  
138 Pharmacy considers relevant to and consistent with the  
139 public health and safety, including whether the granting of  
140 the license would not be in the public interest.

141 (3) All requirements set forth in this subsection shall  
142 conform to wholesale drug distributor licensing guidelines  
143 formally adopted by the United States Food and Drug  
144 Administration (FDA); and in case of conflict between any  
145 wholesale drug distributor licensing requirement imposed by  
146 the Board of Pharmacy pursuant to this subsection and any  
147 food and drug administration wholesale drug distributor  
148 licensing guideline, the latter shall control.

149 ~~(f)~~ (d) An ~~agent or~~ employee of any licensed wholesale  
150 drug distributor need not seek licensure under this section  
151 and may lawfully possess pharmaceutical drugs when the  
152 ~~agent or~~ employee is acting in the usual course of business or  
153 employment.

154 ~~(g)~~ (e) The issuance of a license pursuant to this article  
155 does not change or affect tax liability imposed by this state's  
156 Department of Tax and Revenue on any wholesale drug  
157 distributor.

158 (f) An applicant who is awarded a license or renewal of  
159 a license shall give the board written notification of any  
160 material change in the information previously submitted in,  
161 or with the application for the license or for renewal thereof,  
162 whichever is the most recent document filed with the board,



163 within thirty days after the material change occurs or the  
164 licensee becomes aware of the material change, whichever  
165 event occurs last. Material changes include, but are not  
166 limited to:

167 (1) A change of the physical address or mailing address;

168 (2) A change of the responsible individual, compliance  
169 officer or other executive officers or board members;

170 (3) A change of the licensee's name or trade name;

171 (4) A change in the location where the records of the  
172 licensee are retained;

173 (5) The felony conviction of a key person of the licensee;

174 and

175 (6) Any other material change that the board may specify  
176 by rule.

177 (g) The board may deny a license to an applicant for a  
178 license or for renewal of a license if the board determines  
179 that the granting of the license would not be in the public  
180 interest.

181 (h) The licensing of any person as a wholesale drug  
182 distributor subjects the person and the person's agents and  
183 employees to the jurisdiction of the board and to the laws of  
184 this state for the purpose of the enforcement of this article.

185 article five, chapter thirty of this code and the rules of the  
186 board. However, the filing of an application for a license as  
187 a wholesale drug distributor by, or on behalf of, any person  
188 or the licensing of any person as a wholesale drug distributor  
189 may not, of itself, constitute evidence that the person is doing  
190 business within this state.

191       ~~(h)~~ (i) The Board of Pharmacy may adopt rules pursuant  
192 to section nine of this article which permit out-of-state  
193 wholesale drug distributors to obtain any license required by  
194 this article on the basis of reciprocity to the extent that: ~~(F)~~  
195 (1) An out-of-state wholesale drug distributor possesses a  
196 valid license granted by another state pursuant to legal  
197 standards comparable to those which must be met by a  
198 wholesale drug distributor of this state as prerequisites for  
199 obtaining a license under the laws of this state; and ~~(H)~~ (2)  
200 such other state would extend reciprocal treatment under its  
201 own laws to a wholesale drug distributor of this state.

**§60A-8-14. Disciplinary actions - wholesale drug distributor.**

1       (a) In accordance with article five, chapter thirty of this  
2 code, the Board of Pharmacy may suspend, revoke or refuse  
3 to renew any license issued to a wholesale distributor of  
4 prescription drugs pursuant to this article or may impose a

5 civil money penalty not to exceed \$1,000, in the discretion of  
6 the board for any of the following causes:

7 (1) Making any false material statements in an applica-  
8 tion for a license or for renewal of a license as a wholesale  
9 distributor or pharmacy distributor of prescription drugs;

10 (2) Violating any federal, state or local drug law, any  
11 provision of this article or any rule of the board;

12 (3) Conviction of a felony. For purposes of this subdivi-  
13 sion “felony” means a felony or crime punishable as a felony  
14 under the laws of this state, any other state or the United  
15 States;

16 (4) Ceasing to satisfy the qualifications for licensure  
17 under section seven of this article or the rules of the board;

18 (5) The license or registration of a wholesale drug  
19 distributor licensed under this article has been revoked by  
20 the licensing authority of another state, jurisdiction of  
21 foreign nation; or

22 (6) Any reason for which the board may impose disciplin-  
23 ary sanctions under the provisions of chapter thirty of this  
24 code.

25 (b) Upon the suspension or revocation of the license of  
26 any wholesale distributor of prescription drugs, the distribu-  
27 tor shall immediately surrender the license to the board.

28 (c) If the board suspends, revokes or refuses to renew any  
29 license issued to a wholesale distributor of prescription  
30 drugs and determines that there is clear and convincing  
31 evidence of a danger of immediate and serious harm to any  
32 person, the board may place under seal all drugs owned by  
33 or in the possession, custody or control of the affected  
34 wholesale distributor. Except as provided in this article, the  
35 board may not dispose of the drugs sealed under this subsec-  
36 tion until the distributor exhausts all of his or her appeal  
37 rights under this article or article five, chapter thirty of this  
38 code. The court involved in the appeal may order the board,  
39 during the pendency of the appeal, to sell sealed dangerous  
40 drugs that are perishable. The board shall deposit the  
41 proceeds of the sale with the court.

**§60A-8-15. Maintenance of register and roster of wholesale and  
pharmacy distributors.**

1 (a) The Executive Director of the Board of Pharmacy  
2 shall maintain a register of the names, addresses and the  
3 date the current license was issued or renewed pursuant to  
4 this article for license years beginning on and after July 1,  
5 2013. The register shall be the property of the board and  
6 shall be open for public examination and inspection at all  
7 reasonable times, as the board may direct.

8 (b) The register shall set forth the names and addresses  
9 of:

10 (1) Those persons who are or have been licensed under  
11 this article for the current license year;

12 (2) Those persons whose licenses have been suspended,  
13 revoked or surrendered during the current license year or  
14 during the two preceding license years; and

15 (3) Those persons whose licenses have not been renewed  
16 for the current license year.

17 (c) In lieu of annually publishing a typed or printed  
18 register providing the information required by this subsec-  
19 tion, the board may make the information required to be  
20 published available at its website.

21 (d) A written statement signed and verified by the  
22 executive director of the board, in which it is stated that  
23 after diligent search of the register no record or entry of the  
24 issuance of a license or registration certificate to a person is  
25 found, is admissible in evidence and constitutes presumptive  
26 evidence of the fact that the person is not a licensed as a  
27 wholesale drug distributor under this article.

**§60A-8-16. Disposition of fees.**

1 The board shall pay all fees it collects under this article  
2 into the separate fund created in the State Treasury for the

3 board pursuant to section ten, article one, chapter thirty of  
4 this code. The money in this fund shall be used exclusively  
5 by the board for the purposes of administering and enforce-  
6 ment of its duties pursuant to this article, articles one and  
7 five, chapter thirty of this code, or any other duty of the  
8 board prescribed by any other provision of this code.