A BILL FOR AN ACT

Concerning a requirement that each retail community pharmacy make a prescription reader available to each individual who is visually impaired to whom the pharmacy dispenses a prescription drug.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at http://leg.colorado.gov.)

The bill requires a retail community pharmacy, as defined in the bill, to make a prescription reader available to each individual who is blind or visually impaired to whom the pharmacy dispenses a prescription drug.
Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 12-280-137 as follows:

12-280-137. Retail community pharmacies - requirement to provide prescription reader - exceptions - definitions. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this section, a retail community pharmacy shall notify each individual to whom a prescription drug is dispensed that a prescription reader is available to individuals who are blind or visually impaired free of charge. The retail community pharmacy shall, upon request and free of charge:

(a) provide a prescription reader to the individual to whom the prescription drug is dispensed to use for at least the duration of the prescription; and

(b) ensure that the label is capable of conveying the information required by section 12-280-124 to an individual using the prescription reader.

(2) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply if:

(a) the prescription drug is not dispensed in a container to which is affixed a label pursuant to section 12-280-124; or

(b) the prescription drug is dispensed through the mail.

(3) As used in this section:

(a) "Prescription reader" means a device designed to convey audibly the information contained on the label of a prescription drug to an individual who is blind or visually impaired.
IMPAIRED.

(b) (I) "RETAIL COMMUNITY PHARMACY" MEANS A PHARMACY THAT DISPENSES PRESCRIPTION DRUGS DIRECTLY TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC AT A RETAIL PRICE.

(II) "RETAIL COMMUNITY PHARMACY" DOES NOT INCLUDE:

(A) A PHARMACY THAT DISPENSES PRESCRIPTION DRUGS TO PATIENTS SOLELY THROUGH THE MAIL;

(B) A PHARMACY IN A CORRECTIONAL INSTITUTION; OR

(C) A PHARMACY OPERATED BY A GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY.

SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date. This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August 5, 2020, if adjournment sine die is on May 6, 2020); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in November 2020 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.