

**Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO**

**PREAMENDED**

*This Unofficial Version Includes Committee  
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading*

LLS NO. 24-0607.01 Yelana Love x2295

**HOUSE BILL 24-1115**

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**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Young and Joseph,**

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Fenberg,**

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**House Committees**

Health & Human Services  
Appropriations

**Senate Committees**

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**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING ACCESS TO PRESCRIPTION DRUG LABEL INFORMATION.**

**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 pharmacy to provide an individual who has difficulty seeing or reading standard printed labels on prescription drug containers with access to the prescription drug label information by:

- Including an electronic label affixed to the prescription drug container that transmits the prescription drug's label information, directions, and written instructions to an end user's external accessible device, including an individual's compatible prescription drug reader;

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.  
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

- Providing a prescription drug reader at no cost to the individual;
- Providing a prescription drug label in braille or large print; or
- Providing the individual with a method recommended by the United States access board.

The state pharmacy board may exempt from the requirements of the bill a pharmacy that is a sole proprietorship with no more than 2 pharmacists for which, upon request of the pharmacy, the board determines compliance would create an undue burden.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-280-124, **add** (4)  
3 as follows:

4 **12-280-124. Labeling - rules - definitions.** (4) (a) AS USED IN  
5 THIS SUBSECTION (4), UNLESS THE CONTEXT OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

6 (I) "PATIENT" MEANS A PATIENT AND A PATIENT'S CARETAKER.

7 (II) "PATIENT'S EXTERNAL ACCESSIBLE DEVICE" MEANS A  
8 COMMERCIALY AVAILABLE COMPUTER, MOBILE PHONE, OR OTHER  
9 COMMUNICATIONS DEVICE THAT IS ABLE TO RECEIVE ELECTRONIC  
10 INFORMATION TRANSMITTED FROM AN EXTERNAL SOURCE AND PROVIDE  
11 THE ELECTRONIC INFORMATION IN A FORM AND FORMAT ACCESSIBLE TO A  
12 PATIENT.

13 (III) "PRESCRIPTION DRUG READER" MEANS AN ELECTRONIC  
14 DEVICE THAT IS ABLE TO OBTAIN INFORMATION FROM AN ELECTRONIC  
15 LABEL AFFIXED TO A CONTAINER OF A PRESCRIPTION DRUG AND PROVIDE  
16 THE INFORMATION IN AN AUDIO FORMAT ACCESSIBLE TO THE PATIENT.

17 (b) ON AND AFTER JULY 1, 2025, EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN  
18 SUBSECTION (4)(c) OF THIS SECTION, WHEN DISPENSING A PRESCRIPTION  
19 DRUG TO A PATIENT WHO NOTIFIES A PHARMACY OF DIFFICULTY SEEING OR  
20 READING STANDARD PRINTED LABELS ON A PRESCRIPTION DRUG

1 CONTAINER, THE PHARMACY SHALL PROVIDE THE PATIENT WITH A METHOD  
2 TO ACCESS THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG LABEL INFORMATION REQUIRED  
3 PURSUANT TO SUBSECTIONS (1) TO (3) OF THIS SECTION BY THE PATIENT'S  
4 CHOICE OF:

5 (I) AN ELECTRONIC LABEL AFFIXED TO THE PRESCRIPTION DRUG  
6 CONTAINER THAT TRANSMITS PRESCRIPTION DRUG LABEL INFORMATION,  
7 DIRECTIONS, AND WRITTEN INSTRUCTIONS TO A PATIENT'S EXTERNAL  
8 ACCESSIBLE DEVICE, INCLUDING A PATIENT'S COMPATIBLE PRESCRIPTION  
9 DRUG READER;

10 (II) A PRESCRIPTION DRUG READER PROVIDED TO THE PATIENT AT  
11 NO COST;

12 (III) A PRESCRIPTION DRUG LABEL IN BRAILLE OR LARGE PRINT; OR

13 (IV) ANY OTHER METHOD INCLUDED IN THE BEST PRACTICES FOR  
14 ACCESS TO PRESCRIPTION DRUG LABELING INFORMATION BY THE UNITED  
15 STATES ACCESS BOARD, OR ITS SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION.

16

17 (c) A PHARMACY COMPLIES WITH SUBSECTION (4)(b) OF THIS  
18 SECTION IF:

19 (I) THE PHARMACY OFFERS A PATIENT AN ALTERNATIVE METHOD  
20 TO ACCESS A PRESCRIPTION DRUG LABEL OTHER THAN THE METHODS  
21 SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTIONS (4)(b)(I) TO (4)(b)(IV) OF THIS SECTION; AND

22 (II) THE STATE BOARD OF PHARMACY AFFIRMS THAT THE  
23 ALTERNATIVE METHOD OFFERED TO A PATIENT PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION  
24 (4)(e)(I) OF THIS SECTION IS SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR TO THE METHOD OF  
25 ACCESS THE PATIENT REQUESTED AND MEETS THE NEEDS OF THE PATIENT.

26 (d) PHARMACIES SHALL MAKE GOOD FAITH, SUSTAINED, PERIODIC,  
27 AND REASONABLE EFFORTS TO INFORM THE PUBLIC THAT PRESCRIPTION

1 DRUG LABEL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE IN ACCESSIBLE FORMATS FOR  
2 INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE DIFFICULTY SEEING OR READING STANDARD  
3 PRINTED LABELS ON PRESCRIPTION DRUG CONTAINERS.

4 (e) PHARMACIES SHALL OTHERWISE FOLLOW BEST PRACTICES AS  
5 RECOMMENDED BY THE UNITED STATES ACCESS BOARD, OR ITS  
6 SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION, FOR PHARMACIES IN PROVIDING INDEPENDENT  
7 ACCESS TO PRESCRIPTION DRUG LABEL INFORMATION.

8 (f) BY JANUARY 1, 2025, THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT RULES  
9 NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS SUBSECTION (4).

10 SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, add 25-1.5-121  
11 as follows:

12 25-1.5-121. Pharmacy labels - prescription accessibility grant  
13 program - repeal. (1) THE PRESCRIPTION ACCESSIBILITY GRANT  
14 PROGRAM IS CREATED IN THE DEPARTMENT. THE PURPOSE OF THE GRANT  
15 PROGRAM IS TO PROVIDE HARDSHIP GRANTS TO PHARMACIES FOR THE  
16 PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT USED TO CREATE ACCESSIBLE PRESCRIPTION  
17 LABELS.

18 (2) GRANT RECIPIENTS MAY USE THE MONEY RECEIVED THROUGH  
19 THE GRANT PROGRAM TO PURCHASE EQUIPMENT USED TO CREATE  
20 ACCESSIBLE PRESCRIPTION LABELS.

21 (3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL ADMINISTER THE GRANT PROGRAM  
22 AND, SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, SHALL AWARD GRANTS AS  
23 PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION. GRANTS MUST BE PAID OUT OF MONEY  
24 APPROPRIATED FOR THE GRANT PROGRAM AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (6)  
25 OF THIS SECTION.

26 (4) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPLEMENT THE GRANT PROGRAM IN  
27 ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION. THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE

1 DEPARTMENT MAY PROMULGATE THE RULES NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT  
2 THE GRANT PROGRAM.

3 (5) (a) TO RECEIVE A GRANT, A PHARMACY MUST SUBMIT AN  
4 APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULES  
5 PROMULGATED BY THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT.

6 (b) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL REVIEW THE APPLICATIONS RECEIVED  
7 PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

8 (c) EACH GRANT RECIPIENT MAY BE AWARDED UP TO ONE  
9 THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED DOLLARS.

10 (6) SUBJECT TO AVAILABLE APPROPRIATIONS, ON OR BEFORE JULY  
11 1, 2025, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL AWARD GRANTS AS PROVIDED IN THIS  
12 SECTION. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DISTRIBUTE THE GRANT MONEY WITHIN  
13 FOURTEEN DAYS AFTER THE DEPARTMENT AWARDS THE GRANTS.

14 (7) ON OR BEFORE JANUARY 1, 2026, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL  
15 SUBMIT A SUMMARIZED REPORT TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
16 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE AND THE SENATE HEALTH AND  
17 HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE, OR THEIR SUCCESSOR COMMITTEES, ON THE  
18 GRANT PROGRAM. AT A MINIMUM, THE REPORT MUST INCLUDE THE  
19 NUMBER OF GRANTS AWARDED, THE AMOUNT OF EACH GRANT, AND THE  
20 GRANT RECIPIENTS.

21 (8) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY SHALL APPROPRIATE EIGHTY  
22 THOUSAND DOLLARS FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE DEPARTMENT TO  
23 IMPLEMENT THE GRANT PROGRAM. THE DEPARTMENT MAY USE A PORTION  
24 OF THE MONEY APPROPRIATED FOR THE PROGRAM TO PAY THE DIRECT AND  
25 INDIRECT COSTS THAT THE DEPARTMENT INCURS TO ADMINISTER THE  
26 GRANT PROGRAM.

27 (9) THIS SECTION IS REPEALED, EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2027.

1           **SECTION 3. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
2 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
3 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
4 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
5 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
6 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
7 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
8 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
9 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.