

**SENATE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
HOUSE BILL NO. 4217**

A bill to amend 1978 PA 368, entitled  
"Public health code,"  
by amending section 17754 (MCL 333.17754), as amended by 2014 PA  
525, and by adding section 17754a.

**THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:**

1       Sec. 17754. (1) Except as otherwise provided under article 7,  
2 article 8, and the federal act, a prescription may be transmitted  
3 electronically if the prescription is transmitted in compliance  
4 with the health insurance portability and accountability act of  
5 1996, Public Law 104-191, or regulations promulgated under that  
6 act, 45 CFR parts 160 and 164, by a prescriber or his or her agent  
7 and the data are not altered or modified in the transmission  
8 process. The electronically transmitted prescription ~~shall~~**must**



1 include all of the following information:

2 (a) The name, address, and telephone number of the prescriber.

3 (b) Except as otherwise authorized under section 5110, 17744a,  
4 or 17744b, the full name of the patient for whom the prescription  
5 is issued.

6 (c) An electronic signature or other identifier that  
7 specifically identifies and authenticates the prescriber or his or  
8 her agent.

9 (d) The time and date of the transmission.

10 (e) The identity of the pharmacy intended to receive the  
11 transmission.

12 (f) Any other information required by the federal act or state  
13 law.

14 (2) The electronic equipment or system utilized in the  
15 transmission and communication of prescriptions ~~shall~~**must** provide  
16 adequate confidentiality safeguards and be maintained to protect  
17 patient confidentiality as required under any applicable federal  
18 and state law and to ensure against unauthorized access. The  
19 electronic transmission of a prescription ~~shall~~**must** be  
20 communicated in a retrievable, recognizable form acceptable to the  
21 intended recipient. The electronic form utilized in the  
22 transmission of a prescription ~~shall~~**must** not include "dispense as  
23 written" or "d.a.w." as the default setting.

24 (3) Before dispensing a prescription that is electronically  
25 transmitted, the pharmacist shall exercise professional judgment  
26 regarding the accuracy, validity, and authenticity of the  
27 transmitted prescription.

28 (4) An electronically transmitted prescription that meets the  
29 requirements of this section is the original prescription.



(5) This section does not apply beginning on the date on which section 17754a applies.

Sec. 17754a. (1) Except as otherwise provided under article 8, the federal act, or subsection (5), and subject to subsection (10), beginning October 1, 2021, a prescriber or his or her agent shall electronically transmit a prescription, including a prescription for a controlled substance, directly to a pharmacy of the patient's choice. A prescription that is transmitted electronically under this section must be in compliance with the health insurance portability and accountability act of 1996, Public Law 104-191, or regulations promulgated under that act, 45 CFR parts 160 and 164, and the data must not be altered or modified in the transmission process. The electronically transmitted prescription must include all of the following information:

(a) The name, address, and telephone number of the prescriber.

(b) Except as otherwise authorized under section 5110, 17744a, or 17744b, the full name of the patient for whom the prescription is issued.

(c) An electronic signature or other identifier that specifically identifies and authenticates the prescriber or his or her agent.

(d) The time and date of the transmission.

(e) The identity of the pharmacy intended to receive the transmission.

(f) Any other information required by the federal act or state law.

(2) The electronic equipment or system utilized in the transmission and communication of prescriptions under this section must provide adequate confidentiality safeguards and be maintained



1 to protect patient confidentiality as required under any applicable  
2 federal and state law and to ensure against unauthorized access.  
3 The electronic transmission of a prescription under this section  
4 must be communicated in a retrievable, recognizable form acceptable  
5 to the intended recipient. The electronic form utilized in the  
6 transmission of a prescription must not include "dispense as  
7 written" or "d.a.w." as the default setting.

8 (3) Before dispensing a prescription that is electronically  
9 transmitted under this section, the pharmacist shall exercise  
10 professional judgment regarding the accuracy, validity, and  
11 authenticity of the transmitted prescription.

12 (4) An electronically transmitted prescription that meets the  
13 requirements of this section is the original prescription.

14 (5) The requirement to transmit a prescription electronically  
15 under subsection (1) does not apply under any of the following  
16 circumstances:

17 (a) If the prescription is issued by a prescriber who is a  
18 veterinarian licensed under this article.

19 (b) If the prescription is issued under a circumstance in  
20 which electronic transmission is not available due to a temporary  
21 technological or electrical failure.

22 (c) If the prescription is issued by a prescriber who has  
23 received a waiver from the department under subsection (7).

24 (d) If the prescription is issued by a prescriber who  
25 reasonably believes that electronically transmitting the  
26 prescription would make it impractical for the patient who is the  
27 subject of the prescription to obtain the prescription drug in a  
28 timely manner and that the delay would adversely affect the  
29 patient's medical condition. A prescriber who does not



1 electronically transmit a prescription under this subdivision shall  
2 document the specific reason for his or her belief that the delay  
3 would adversely affect the patient's medical condition.

4 (e) If the prescription is orally prescribed under section  
5 7333(3) or (4).

6 (f) If the prescription is issued by a prescriber to be  
7 dispensed outside of this state.

8 (g) If the prescription is issued by a prescriber who is  
9 located outside of this state to be dispensed by a pharmacy located  
10 inside of this state.

11 (h) If the prescription is issued and dispensed in the same  
12 health care facility and the individual for whom the prescription  
13 is issued uses the drug exclusively in the health care facility. As  
14 used in this subdivision, "health care facility" includes, but is  
15 not limited to, any of the following:

16 (i) A hospital.

17 (ii) A hospice.

18 (iii) A dialysis treatment clinic.

19 (iv) A freestanding surgical outpatient facility.

20 (v) A skilled nursing facility.

21 (vi) A long-term care facility that provides rehabilitative,  
22 restorative, or ongoing skilled nursing care to an individual who  
23 is in need of assistance with activities of daily living.

24 (i) If the prescription contains content that is not supported  
25 by the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs  
26 Prescriber/Pharmacist Interface SCRIPT Standard.

27 (j) If the prescription is for a drug for which the FDA  
28 requires the prescription to contain content that cannot be  
29 transmitted electronically.



1 (k) If the prescription is issued under circumstances in which  
2 the prescriber is not required to include on the prescription a  
3 name of a patient for whom the prescription is issued including,  
4 but not limited to, a prescription issued under section 5110.

5 (l) If the prescription is issued by a prescriber who is  
6 prescribing the drug under a research protocol.

7 (6) If a prescriber has not been granted a waiver from the  
8 department under subsection (7) and the prescriber does not  
9 electronically transmit a prescription under an exception described  
10 in subsection (5), the prescriber shall document the applicable  
11 exception and provide that documentation to the department on  
12 request.

13 (7) If a prescriber cannot meet the requirements of subsection  
14 (1) or (2), the prescriber may apply to the department for a waiver  
15 in a form and manner required by the department. The department  
16 shall establish by rule the requirements for obtaining a waiver  
17 under this subsection. The rules must not establish requirements  
18 that are more stringent than any requirements used by the federal  
19 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for waiving the Medicare  
20 requirement for the electronic transmission of controlled substance  
21 prescriptions. If a prescriber provides evidence satisfactory to  
22 the department that the prescriber has received a waiver of the  
23 Medicare requirement for the electronic transmission of controlled  
24 substances prescriptions from the federal Centers for Medicare and  
25 Medicaid Services, the department shall grant a waiver to the  
26 prescriber under this subsection. A waiver that is granted by the  
27 department under this subsection is valid for a period not to  
28 exceed 2 years and is renewable.

29 (8) A pharmacist who receives a prescription that was not



1 transmitted electronically to the pharmacy may dispense the  
2 prescription without determining whether an exception under  
3 subsection (5) applies.

4 (9) The department, in consultation with the board, shall  
5 promulgate rules to implement this section.

6 (10) If the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services  
7 delays the Medicare requirement for the electronic transmission of  
8 prescriptions for controlled substances beyond October 1, 2021,  
9 then the department shall delay the implementation date of  
10 subsection (1) to the date established by the federal Centers for  
11 Medicare and Medicaid Services for the Medicare requirement.

12 Enacting section 1. This amendatory act does not take effect  
13 unless all of the following bills of the 100th Legislature are  
14 enacted into law:

15 (a) Senate Bill No. 248.

16 (b) Senate Bill No. 254.

