

Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB418

Patron: Favola

Bill Title: Therapeutic interchange; authorizes pharmacists to perform, adaptation of prescriptions.

Bill Summary: Authorizes pharmacists to perform therapeutic interchanges by substituting a drug with another drug in the same therapeutic class when such substitution lowers the cost or is cost-neutral to the patient or the prescribed drug is in a drug shortage and the substitution conforms to Board of Pharmacy regulations. The bill directs the Board of Pharmacy to determine which therapeutic classes of drugs shall be eligible for therapeutic interchange and which classes shall be prohibited. The bill also authorizes pharmacists to adapt prescriptions by changing the dosage form or quantity of a medication or by completing missing information on a prescription when there is evidence to support such change.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: n/a

Fiscal Summary: Minimal/absorbable fiscal impact.

Fiscal Analysis: This bill requires the Board of Pharmacy to promulgate regulations reflecting the authorization of pharmacists to perform therapeutic interchange and further determine which therapeutic classes of drugs are eligible for or prohibited from therapeutic interchange. It is expected that any costs or workload impacts associated with promulgating regulations or performing such determination will be minimal and absorbable within existing resources.

Other: n/a