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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2019

A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES

Introduced By: Senators Felag, Lynch Prata, Lombardo, Sosnowski, and Ciccone

Date Introduced: May 22, 2019

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 5-19.1 of the General Laws entitled "Pharmacies" is hereby
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **5-19.1-34. Prescription drug price savings.**

4 (a) Pharmacists when dispensing a prescription shall advise the individual presenting the
5 prescription of every substitute drug containing all the same active chemical ingredients of the
6 same strength, quantity and dosage available at a lesser cost, unless ordered by the prescribing
7 physician to dispense as brand name necessary on the prescription form.

8 (b) The provisions of this section shall not apply if the pharmacist is automatically
9 charging the individual presenting the prescription with the lowest price active chemical
10 ingredients of the same strength, quantity and dosage.

11 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
A N A C T
RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- PHARMACIES

1 This act would provide that pharmacists shall disclose lesser price drug substitutions
2 unless directed otherwise by the doctor. Exempts pharmacists automatically charging the lowest
3 available price.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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