

## 2022 SESSION

INTRODUCED

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### HOUSE BILL NO. 1324

Offered January 21, 2022

A *BILL to direct the Board of Pharmacy to adopt regulations related to work environment requirements for pharmacy personnel; emergency.*

Patron—Hodges

Committee Referral Pending

#### **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. § 1.** *That the Board of Pharmacy shall adopt regulations related to work environment requirements for pharmacy personnel that protect the health, safety, and welfare of patients. Such regulations shall include provisions (i) addressing sufficient pharmacy staffing to prevent fatigue, distraction, or other conditions that interfere with a pharmacist's ability to practice with competence and safety; (ii) stating standards for uninterrupted rest periods and meal breaks for pharmacy personnel; (iii) stating standards that ensure adequate time for pharmacists to complete professional duties and responsibilities, including drug utilization reviews, immunization administration, patient counseling, and verification of prescription accuracy; and (iv) limiting external factors such as productivity or production quotas to the extent that such factors interfere with the ability to provide appropriate professional services to the public.*

**2. That an emergency exists and this act is in force from its passage.**

**3. That the Board of Pharmacy's initial adoption of regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this act shall be exempt from the Administrative Process Act (§ 2.2-4000 et seq. of the Code of Virginia), except that the Board of Pharmacy shall provide an opportunity for public comment on the regulations prior to adoption of such regulations.**

**4. That the Board of Pharmacy shall amend and promulgate regulations in accordance with this act by September 1, 2022.**

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HB1324