

- SUBJECT:** Period for which a prescription written for a Medicaid recipient is valid
- COMMITTEE:** Public Health — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 10 ayes — Kolkhorst, Naishtat, Coleman, J. Davis, Gonzales, Hopson, S. King, Laubenberg, McReynolds, Zerwas
- 0 nays
- 1 absent — Truitt
- WITNESSES:** For — Dennis Wiesner, H-E-B; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Kathy Barber, Texas Federation of Drug Stores; Richard Beck, Texas Pharmacy Business Council; Ed Berger, Seton Family of Hospitals; Jennifer Fix, Texas Pharmacy Association; Karen Reagan, Walgreens; Bill Stout, Green Party of Texas; Wayne West, Best Value Pharmacies; Lydia Wilson, Best Value Pharmacies, Inc.)
- Against — None
- BACKGROUND:** HHSC rules governing the Medicaid vendor drug program limit the period for which a Medicaid provider may write a prescription to six months.
- DIGEST:** HB 3755 would require HHSC to adopt rules, to the extent allowed by law, to ensure that prescriptions written by Medicaid providers were valid for the lesser of the period for which the prescription was written or one year. This provision would not apply to prescriptions for a controlled substance and would not affect any other limit on Medicaid prescriptions in HHSC rules.
- HHSC would request any federal waiver or authorization necessary to implement the provisions of this bill.
- The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2009.