

April 24, 2003

H 1234. BULK DRUG PURCHASING. TO ESTABLISH A CENTRAL PURCHASING ENTITY TO PROVIDE FOR BULK PURCHASING OF PHARMACEUTICALS FOR STATE AGENCIES.

Creates new GS 143-64A through 143-64I, establishing Prescription Drug Bulk Purchasing Program to be administered by new Division in Dep't of Administration. Requires that following state entities participate in Program: the Dep'ts of Correction, Crime Control and Public Safety, and Health and Human Services; the Teachers' and State Employees' Comprehensive Major Medical Plan; and the University of North Carolina. Also authorizes other state and private entities to elect to participate in Program. Requires that Division develop procedures for state agencies to follow in purchasing pharmaceuticals and appoint a pharmaceutical benefits manager to negotiate price discounts, purchase prescription drugs, and establish a single drug formulary. Delineates strategies to be considered by Division in managing prescription drug increases. New GS 143-64J requires that pharmaceutical manufacturers annually provide Dep't of Administration with the average manufacturer price paid for each drug sold in state and the price that each wholesaler pays the manufacturer for that drug. New GS 143-64K requires that drug wholesalers provide Division with information on the actual price charged retail pharmacies for prescription drugs. Further authorizes the Dep't and the Attorney General to investigate accuracy of information provided by drug manufacturers and wholesalers. Appropriates to Dep't \$100,000 for each year of 2003-2005 biennium for implementation.

Intro. by Insko, Glazier, Ross.

Ref. to Rules	GS 143, APPROP
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