Statutory Changes in Pharmacy Law

Unless otherwise noted, these provisions take effect January 1, 2023.

Underline text is added language. Strikethrough text is deleted language.

Business and Professions Code

Section 688 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

688.
(a) On and after January 1, 2022, a health care practitioner authorized to issue a prescription pursuant to Section 4040 shall have the capability to issue an electronic data transmission prescription, as defined under Section 4040, on behalf of a patient and to transmit that electronic data transmission prescription to a pharmacy selected by the patient.
(b)(1) On and after January 1, 2022, a pharmacy, pharmacist, or other practitioner authorized under California law to dispense or furnish a prescription pursuant to Section 4040 shall have the capability to receive an electronic data transmission prescription on behalf of a patient.
(2) A pharmacy, pharmacist, or other practitioner authorized under California law to dispense or furnish a prescription pursuant to Section 4040 shall not refuse to dispense or furnish an electronic data transmission prescription solely because the prescription was not submitted via, or is not compatible with, the proprietary software of the pharmacy, pharmacist, or other dispensing practitioner.
(3) A pharmacy, pharmacist, or other practitioner authorized under California law to dispense or furnish a prescription pursuant to Section 4040 may decline to dispense or furnish an electronic data transmission prescription submitted via a software that fails to meet any of the following:
   (A) Adheres to the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs SCRIPT standard, as modified from time to time.
   (B) Complies with the prescription content requirements set forth in Section 4040.
   (C) For a controlled substance prescription, complies with Parts 1300, 1304, 1306, and 1311 of Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as amended from time to time.
   (D) Complies with the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, the California Confidentiality of Medical Information Act, or the security and confidentiality requirements prescribed to by the pharmacy, pharmacist, or other practitioner authorized pursuant to Section 4040.
(c) For a prescription for a controlled substance, as defined by Section 4021, generation and transmission of the electronic data transmission prescription shall comply with Parts 1300, 1304, 1306, and 1311 of Title 21 of the Code of Federal Regulations, as amended from time to time.
(d) On and after January 1, 2022, a prescription prescribed by a health care practitioner shall be issued as an electronic data transmission prescription. This subdivision shall not apply to prescriptions issued pursuant to subdivision (e).
(e) Subdivision (d) shall not apply to any of the following:

1. The prescription is issued pursuant to Section 11159.2 of the Health and Safety Code.
2. An electronic data transmission prescription is not available due to a temporary technological or electrical failure. For purposes of this paragraph, “temporary technological or electrical failure” means failure of a computer system, application, or device, or the loss of electrical power to that system, application, or device, or any other service interruption affecting the certified electronic data transmission prescription application used to transmit the prescription.
3. The prescribing health care practitioner is issuing a prescription to be dispensed by a pharmacy located outside California.
4. (A) The prescription is issued in a hospital emergency department or urgent care clinic and one or more of the following conditions are present:
   i. The patient resides outside California.
   ii. The patient resides outside the geographic area of the hospital.
   iii. The patient is homeless or indigent and does not have a preferred pharmacy.
   iv. The prescription is issued at a time when a patient’s regular or preferred pharmacy is likely to be closed.
   (B) Under any of the conditions described in subparagraph (A), a prescription shall be electronically issued but does not require electronic transmission and may be provided directly to the patient.
5. The prescription is issued by a veterinarian.
6. The prescription is for eyeglasses or contact lenses.
7. The prescription is issued by a prescribing health care practitioner and the dispenser are the same entity, serving as a volunteer in a free clinic and receives no remuneration for their services.
8. The prescription is issued by a prescribing health care practitioner under circumstances whereby the practitioner reasonably determines that it would be impractical for the patient to obtain substances prescribed by an electronic data transmission prescription in a timely manner, and the delay would adversely impact the patient’s medical condition.
9. The prescription that is issued includes elements not covered by the latest version of the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs’ SCRIPT standard, as amended from time to time.
10. The prescriber registers with the California State Board of Pharmacy in a manner and format determined by the board, stating that they meet one or more of the following criteria:
   i. Their practice is located in the area of an emergency or disaster declared by a federal, state, or local government.
   ii. They issue 100 or fewer prescriptions per calendar year.
   iii. They are unable to issue electronic data transmission prescriptions due to circumstances beyond their control.
(B) The prescriber shall annually submit the registration required in subparagraph (A) to the California State Board of Pharmacy and maintain documentation of the circumstances qualifying them for exemption under subparagraph (A).

(C) The California State Board of Pharmacy shall post a list of prescribers meeting the requirements of subparagraph (A) on its internet website.

(f) A health care practitioner who issues a prescription for a controlled substance but does not transmit the prescription as an electronic data transmission prescription shall document the reason in the patient’s medical record as soon as practicable and within 72 hours of the end of the technological or electrical failure that prevented the electronic data transmission of the prescription.

(g)(1) A pharmacy that receives an electronic data transmission prescription from a prescribing health care practitioner who has issued the prescription but has not dispensed the medication to the patient shall, at the request of the patient or a person authorized to make a request on behalf of the patient, immediately transfer or forward the electronic data transmission prescription to an alternative pharmacy designated by the requester, unless one of the following applies:
   (A) The action would result in a violation of any state or federal law.
   (B) The action is not supported by the latest version of the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs SCRIPT standard, as amended from time to time.

(2) If a pharmacy is prohibited from transferring or forwarding electronic data transmission prescriptions, as specified in paragraph (1), to a designated alternative pharmacy, and that prohibition is subsequently removed, then that pharmacy shall implement, within one year from the date the prohibition is removed, the necessary provisions to allow for the transferring or forwarding of an electronic data transmission prescription.

(h) If a pharmacy, or its staff, is aware than an attempted transmission of an electronic data transmission prescription failed, is incomplete, or is otherwise not appropriately received, the pharmacy shall immediately notify the prescribing health care practitioner.

(i) A pharmacist who receives a written, oral, or faxed prescription shall not be required to verify that the prescription properly falls under one of the exceptions in subdivision (e). Pharmacists may continue to dispense medications from legally valid written, oral, or fax prescriptions pursuant to this division.

(j) A health care practitioner, pharmacist, or pharmacy who fails to meet the applicable requirements of this section shall be referred to the appropriate state professional licensing board solely for administrative sanctions, as deemed appropriate by that board. This section does not create a private right of action against a health care practitioner. This section does not limit a health care practitioner’s liability for the negligent failure to diagnose or treat a patient.

(k) This section shall not apply to a health care practitioner, pharmacist, or pharmacy when providing health care services to an inmate, individual on parole, or youth under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.
Section 1203.41 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

1203.41.
(a) If a defendant is sentenced pursuant to paragraph (5) of subdivision (h) of Section 4770, convicted of a felony, the court, in its discretion and in the interests of justice, may order the following relief, subject to the conditions of subdivision (b):
(1) The court may permit the defendant to withdraw his or her plea of guilty or plea of nolo contendere and enter a plea of not guilty, or, if he or she has been convicted after a plea of not guilty, the court shall set aside the verdict of guilty, and, in either case, the court shall thereupon dismiss the accusations or information against the defendant and he or she thereupon shall thereafter be released from all penalties and disabilities resulting from the offense of which he or she has been convicted, except as provided in Section 13555 of the Vehicle Code.
(2) The relief available under this section may be granted only after the lapse of one year following the defendant’s completion of the sentence, if the sentence was imposed pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (h) of Section 1170, or after the lapse of two years following the defendant’s completion of the sentence, if the sentence was imposed pursuant to subparagraph (A) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (h) of Section 1170 or if the defendant was sentenced to the state prison.
(3) The relief available under this section may be granted only if the defendant is not on parole or under supervision pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (5) of subdivision (h) of Section 1170, and is not serving a sentence for, on probation for, or charged with the commission of any offense.
(4) The defendant shall be informed, either orally or in writing, of the provisions of this section and of his or her right, if any, to petition for a certificate of rehabilitation and pardon at the time he or she is sentenced.
(5) The defendant may make the application and change of plea in person or by attorney, or by a probation officer authorized in writing.
(6) If the defendant seeks relief under this section for a felony that resulted in a sentence to the state prison, the relief available under this section may only be granted if that felony did not result in a requirement to register as a sex offender pursuant to Chapter 5.5 (commencing with Section 290) of Title 9 of Part 1.
(b) Relief granted pursuant to subdivision (a) is subject to all of the following conditions:
(1) In any subsequent prosecution of the defendant for any other offense, the prior conviction may be pleaded and proved and shall have the same effect as if the accusation or information had not been dismissed.
(2) The order shall state, and the defendant shall be informed, that the order does not relieve him or her of the obligation to disclose the conviction in response to any direct question contained in any questionnaire or application for public office, for licensure by any state or local agency, or agency or by a
federally recognized tribe, or for contracting with the California State Lottery Commission.

(3) Dismissal of an accusation or information pursuant to this section does not permit a person to own, possess, or have in his or her custody or control any firearm or prevent his or her conviction under Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 29800) of Division 9 of Title 4 of Part 6.

(4) Dismissal of an accusation or information underlying a conviction pursuant to this section does not permit a person prohibited from holding public office as a result of that conviction to hold public office.

(c) This section applies to any conviction specified in subdivision (a) that occurred before, on, or after January 1, 2014.

(d) A person who petitions for a change of plea or setting aside of a verdict under this section may be required to reimburse the court for the actual costs of services rendered, whether or not the petition is granted and the records are sealed or expunged, at a rate to be determined by the court not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars ($150), and to reimburse the county for the actual costs of services rendered, whether or not the petition is granted and the records are sealed or expunged, at a rate to be determined by the county board of supervisors not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars ($150), and to reimburse any city for the actual costs of services rendered, whether or not the petition is granted and the records are sealed or expunged, at a rate to be determined by the city council not to exceed one hundred fifty dollars ($150). Ability to make this reimbursement shall be determined by the court using the standards set forth in paragraph (2) of subdivision (g) of Section 987.8 and shall not be a prerequisite to a person’s eligibility under this section. The court may order reimbursement in any case in which the petitioner appears to have the ability to pay, without undue hardship, all or any portion of the costs for services established pursuant to this subdivision.

(e)(1) Relief shall not be granted under this section unless the prosecuting attorney has been given 15 days’ notice of the petition for relief. The probation officer shall notify the prosecuting attorney when a petition is filed, pursuant to this section.

(2) It shall be presumed that the prosecuting attorney has received notice if proof of service is filed with the court.

(f) If, after receiving notice pursuant to subdivision (e), the prosecuting attorney fails to appear and object to a petition for dismissal, the prosecuting attorney may not move to set aside or otherwise appeal the grant of that petition.

(g) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not release the defendant from the terms and conditions of any unexpired criminal protective orders that have been issued by the court pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (i) of Section 136.2, subdivision (i) of Section 273.5, subdivision (l) of Section 368, or subdivision (k) of Section 646.9. These protective orders shall remain in full effect until expiration or until any further order by the court modifying or terminating the order, despite the dismissal of the underlying accusation or information.

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Relief granted pursuant to this section does not affect the authority to receive, or take adverse action based on, criminal history information, including the authority to receive certified court records received or evaluated pursuant to Section 1522, 1568.09, 1569.17, or 1596.871 of the Health and Safety Code, or pursuant to any statutory or regulatory provisions that incorporate the criteria of those sections. Relief granted pursuant to this section does not make eligible a person who is otherwise ineligible to provide, or receive payment for providing, in-home supportive services pursuant to Article 7 (commencing with Section 12300) of Chapter 3 of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, or pursuant to Section 14132.95, 14132.952, or 14132.956 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

Section 1203.425 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

1203.425. (a)(1)(A) Commencing July 1, 2022, and subject to an appropriation in the annual Budget Act, on a monthly basis, the Department of Justice shall review the records in the statewide criminal justice databases, and based on information in the state summary criminal history repository and the Supervised Release File, shall identify persons with convictions that meet the criteria set forth in subparagraph (B) and are eligible for automatic conviction record relief.

(B) A person is eligible for automatic conviction relief pursuant to this section if they meet all of the following conditions:

(i) The person is not required to register pursuant to the Sex Offender Registration Act.
(ii) The person does not have an active record for local, state, or federal supervision in the Supervised Release File.
(iii) Based upon the information available in the department’s record, including disposition dates and sentencing terms, it does not appear that the person is currently serving a sentence for an offense and there is no indication of pending criminal charges.
(iv) Except as otherwise provided in subclause (III) of clause (v), there is no indication that the conviction resulted in a sentence of incarceration in the state prison.
(v) The conviction occurred on or after January 1, 1973, and meets either of the following criteria:

(I) The defendant was sentenced to probation and, based upon the disposition date and the term of probation specified in the department’s records, appears to have completed their term of probation without revocation.
(II) The defendant was convicted of an infraction or misdemeanor, was not granted probation, and, based upon the disposition date and the term specified in the department’s records, the defendant appears to have
completed their sentence, and at least one calendar year has elapsed since the date of judgment.

(2)(A) Except as specified in subdivision (b), the department shall grant relief, including dismissal of a conviction, to a person identified pursuant to paragraph (1) without requiring a petition or motion by a party for that relief if the relevant information is present in the department’s electronic records.

(B) The state summary criminal history information shall include, directly next to or below the entry or entries regarding the person’s criminal record, a note stating "relief granted," listing the date that the department granted relief and this section. This note shall be included in all statewide criminal databases with a record of the conviction.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (4) and in Section 13555 of the Vehicle Code, a person granted conviction relief pursuant to this section shall be released from all penalties and disabilities resulting from the offense of which the person has been convicted.

(3)(A) Commencing July 1, 2022, and subject to an appropriation in the annual Budget Act, on a monthly basis, the department shall electronically submit a notice to the superior court having jurisdiction over the criminal case, informing the court of all cases for which a complaint was filed in that jurisdiction and for which relief was granted pursuant to this section.

Commencing on January 1, 2023, for any record retained by the court pursuant to Section 68152 of the Government Code, except as provided in paragraph (4), the court shall not disclose information concerning a conviction granted relief pursuant to this section or Section 1203.4, 1203.4a, 1203.41, or 1203.42, to any person or entity, in any format, except to the person whose conviction was granted relief or a criminal justice agency, as defined in Section 851.92.

(B) If probation is transferred pursuant to Section 1203.9, the department shall electronically submit a notice as provided in subparagraph (A) to both the transferring court and any subsequent receiving court. The electronic notice shall be in a mutually agreed upon format.

(C) If a receiving court reduces a felony to a misdemeanor pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 17, or dismisses a conviction pursuant to law, including, but not limited to, Section 1203.4, 1203.4a, 1203.41, 1203.42, 1203.43, or 1203.49, it shall furnish a disposition report to the department with the original case number and CII number from the transferring court. The department shall electronically submit a notice to the superior court that sentenced the defendant. If probation is transferred multiple times, the department shall electronically submit a notice to all other involved courts. The electronic notice shall be in a mutually agreed upon format.

(D) If a court receives notification from the department pursuant to subparagraph (B), the court shall update its records to reflect the reduction or dismissal. If a court receives notification that a case was dismissed pursuant to this section...
or Section 1203.4, 1203.4a, 1203.41, or 1203.42, the court shall update its records to reflect the dismissal and shall not disclose information concerning a conviction granted relief to any person or entity, in any format, except to the person whose conviction was granted relief or a criminal justice agency, as defined in Section 851.92.

(4) Relief granted pursuant to this section is subject to the following conditions:

(A) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not relieve a person of the obligation to disclose a criminal conviction in response to a direct question contained in a questionnaire or application for employment as a peace officer, as defined in Section 830.

(B) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not relieve a person of the obligation to disclose the conviction in response to a direct question contained in a questionnaire or application for public office, or for contracting with the California State Lottery Commission.

(C) Relief granted pursuant to this section has no effect on the ability of a criminal justice agency, as defined in Section 851.92, to access and use records that are granted relief to the same extent that would have been permitted for a criminal justice agency had relief not been granted.

(D) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not limit the jurisdiction of the court over a subsequently filed motion to amend the record, petition or motion for postconviction relief, or collateral attack on a conviction for which relief has been granted pursuant to this section.

(E) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not affect a person’s authorization to own, possess, or have in the person’s custody or control a firearm, or the person’s susceptibility to conviction under Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 29800) of Division 9 of Title 4 of Part 6, if the criminal conviction would otherwise affect this authorization or susceptibility.

(F) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not affect a prohibition from holding public office that would otherwise apply under law as a result of the criminal conviction.

(G) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not release a person from the terms and conditions of any unexpired criminal protective order that has been issued by the court pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (i) of Section 136.2, subdivision (j) of Section 273.5, subdivision (l) of Section 368, or subdivision (k) of Section 646.9. These protective orders shall remain in full effect until expiration or until any further order by the court modifying or terminating the order, despite the dismissal of the underlying conviction.

(H) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not affect the authority to receive, or take adverse action based on, criminal history information, including the authority to receive certified court records received or evaluated pursuant to Section 1522, 1568.09, 1569.17, or 1596.871 of the Health and Safety Code, or pursuant to any statutory or regulatory provisions that incorporate the criteria of those sections.
(I) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not make eligible a person who is otherwise ineligible to provide, or receive payment for providing, in-home supportive services pursuant to Article 7 (commencing with Section 12300) of Chapter 3 of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, or pursuant to Section 14132.95, 14132.952, or 14132.956 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

(J) In a subsequent prosecution of the defendant for any other offense, the prior conviction may be pleaded and proved and shall have the same effect as if the relief had not been granted.

(K)(i) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not affect the authority to receive, or take adverse action based on, criminal history information, including the authority to receive certified court records received or evaluated pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 44000) of Chapter 1, Article 3 (commencing with Section 44240) and Article 8 (commencing with Section 44330) of Chapter 2, Article 1 (commencing with Section 44420) of Chapter 3, Article 3 (commencing with Section 44930) of Chapter 4, and Article 1 (commencing with Section 45100) and Article 6 (commencing with Section 45240) of Chapter 5, of Part 25 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Education Code, or pursuant to any statutory or regulatory provisions that relate to, incorporate, expand upon, or interpret the authority of those provisions.

(ii) Notwithstanding clause (i) or any other law, information relating to a conviction for a controlled substance offense listed in Section 11350 or 11377, or former Section 11500 or 11500.5, of the Health and Safety Code that is more than five years old, for which relief is granted pursuant to this section, shall not be disclosed.

(5) This section shall not limit petitions, motions, or orders for relief in a criminal case, as required or authorized by any other law, including, but not limited to, Sections 1203.4 and 1204.4a.

(6) Commencing July 1, 2022, and subject to an appropriation in the annual Budget Act, the department shall annually publish statistics for each county regarding the total number of convictions granted relief pursuant to this section and the total number of convictions prohibited from automatic relief pursuant to subdivision (b), on the OpenJustice Web portal, as defined in Section 13010.

(b)(1) The prosecuting attorney or probation department may, no later than 90 calendar days before the date of a person’s eligibility for relief pursuant to this section, file a petition to prohibit the department from granting automatic relief pursuant to this section, based on a showing that granting that relief would pose a substantial threat to the public safety. If probation was transferred pursuant to Section 1203.9, the prosecuting attorney or probation department in either the receiving county or the transferring county shall file the petition in the county of current jurisdiction.

(2) The court shall give notice to the defendant and conduct a hearing on the petition within 45 days after the petition is filed.
(3) At a hearing on the petition pursuant to this subdivision, the defendant, the probation department, the prosecuting attorney, and the arresting agency, through the prosecuting attorney, may present evidence to the court. Notwithstanding Sections 1538.5 and 1539, the hearing may be heard and determined upon declarations, affidavits, police investigative reports, copies of state summary criminal history information and local summary criminal history information, or any other evidence submitted by the parties that is material, reliable, and relevant.

(4) The prosecutor or probation department has the initial burden of proof to show that granting conviction relief would pose a substantial threat to the public safety. In determining whether granting relief would pose a substantial threat to the public safety, the court may consider any relevant factors including, but not limited to, either of the following:

(A) Declarations or evidence regarding the offense for which a grant of relief is being contested.

(B) The defendant’s record of arrests and convictions.

(5) If the court finds that the prosecutor or probation department has satisfied the burden of proof, the burden shifts to the defendant to show that the hardship of not obtaining relief outweighs the threat to the public safety of providing relief. In determining whether the defendant’s hardship outweighs the threat to the public safety, the court may consider any relevant factors including, but not limited to, either of the following:

(A) The hardship to the defendant that has been caused by the conviction and that would be caused if relief is not granted.

(B) Declarations or evidence regarding the defendant’s good character.

(6) If the court grants a petition pursuant to this subdivision, the court shall furnish a disposition report to the Department of Justice pursuant to Section 13151, stating that relief pursuant to this section was denied, and the department shall not grant relief pursuant to this section. If probation was transferred pursuant to Section 1203.9, the department shall electronically submit a notice to the transferring court, and, if probation was transferred multiple times, to all other involved courts.

(7) A person denied relief pursuant to this section may continue to be eligible for relief pursuant to Section 1203.4 or 1203.4a. If the court subsequently grants relief pursuant to one of those sections, the court shall furnish a disposition report to the Department of Justice pursuant to Section 13151, stating that relief was granted pursuant to the applicable section, and the department shall grant relief pursuant to that section. If probation was transferred pursuant to Section 1203.9, the department shall electronically submit a notice that relief was granted pursuant to the applicable section to the transferring court and, if probation was transferred multiple times, to all other involved courts.

(c) At the time of sentencing, the court shall advise a defendant, either orally or in writing, of the provisions of this section and of the defendant’s right, if any, to petition for a certificate of rehabilitation and pardon.
(d) This section shall become inoperative on July 1, 2023, and, as of January 1, 2024, is repealed.

Section 1203.425 is added to the Penal Code, to read:

1203.425.
(a)(1)(A) Commencing July 1, 2023, and subject to an appropriation in the annual Budget Act, on a monthly basis, the Department of Justice shall review the records in the statewide criminal justice databases, and based on information in the state summary criminal history repository and the Supervised Release File, shall identify persons with convictions that meet the criteria set forth in subparagraph (B) and are eligible for automatic conviction record relief.

(B) A person is eligible for automatic conviction relief pursuant to this section if they meet all of the following conditions:
   (i) The person is not required to register pursuant to the Sex Offender Registration Act.
   (ii) The person does not have an active record for local, state, or federal supervision in the Supervised Release File.
   (iii) Based upon the information available in the department's record, including disposition dates and sentencing terms, it does not appear that the person is currently serving a sentence for an offense and there is no indication of pending criminal charges.
   (iv) The conviction meets either of the following criteria:
      (I) The conviction occurred on or after January 1, 1973, and meets either of the following criteria:
         (ia) The defendant was sentenced to probation and, based upon the disposition date and the term of probation specified in the department’s records, appears to have completed their term of probation without revocation.
         (ib) The defendant was convicted of an infraction or misdemeanor, was not granted probation, and, based upon the disposition date and the term specified in the department’s records, the defendant appears to have completed their sentence, and at least one calendar year has elapsed since the date of judgment.
      (II) The conviction occurred on or after January 1, 2005, the defendant was convicted of a felony other than one for which the defendant completed probation without revocation, and based upon the disposition date and the sentence specified in the department’s records, appears to have completed all terms of incarceration, probation, mandatory supervision, post release community supervision, and parole, and a period of four years has elapsed since the date on which the defendant completed probation or supervision for that conviction and during which the defendant was not convicted of a new felony offense. This subclause does
not apply to a conviction of a serious felony defined in subdivision (c) of Section 1192.7, a violent felony as defined in Section 667.5, or a felony offense requiring registration pursuant to Chapter 5.5 (commencing with Section 290) of Title 9 of Part 1.

(2)(A) Except as specified in subdivision (b), the department shall grant relief, including dismissal of a conviction, to a person identified pursuant to paragraph (1) without requiring a petition or motion by a party for that relief if the relevant information is present in the department’s electronic records.

(B) The state summary criminal history information shall include, directly next to or below the entry or entries regarding the person’s criminal record, a note stating “relief granted,” listing the date that the department granted relief and this section. This note shall be included in all statewide criminal databases with a record of the conviction.

(C) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (4) and in Section 13555 of the Vehicle Code, a person granted conviction relief pursuant to this section shall be released from all penalties and disabilities resulting from the offense of which the person has been convicted.

(3)(A) Commencing July 1, 2022, and subject to an appropriation in the annual Budget Act, on a monthly basis, the department shall electronically submit a notice to the superior court having jurisdiction over the criminal case, informing the court of all cases for which a complaint was filed in that jurisdiction and for which relief was granted pursuant to this section. Commencing on August 1, 2022, for any record retained by the court pursuant to Section 68152 of the Government Code, except as provided in paragraph (4), the court shall not disclose information concerning a conviction granted relief pursuant to this section or Section 1203.4, 1203.4a, 1203.41, or 1203.42, to any person or entity, in any format, except to the person whose conviction was granted relief or a criminal justice agency, as defined in Section 851.92.

(B) If probation is transferred pursuant to Section 1203.9, the department shall electronically submit a notice as provided in subparagraph (A) to both the transferring court and any subsequent receiving court. The electronic notice shall be in a mutually agreed upon format.

(C) If a receiving court reduces a felony to a misdemeanor pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 17, or dismisses a conviction pursuant to law, including, but not limited to, Section 1203.4, 1203.4a, 1203.41, 1203.42, 1203.43, or 1203.49, it shall furnish a disposition report to the department with the original case number and CII number from the transferring court. The department shall electronically submit a notice to the superior court that sentenced the defendant. If probation is transferred multiple times, the department shall electronically submit a notice to all other involved courts. The electronic notice shall be in a mutually agreed upon format.

(D) If a court receives notification from the department pursuant to subparagraph (B), the court shall update its records to reflect the reduction or dismissal. If a
court receives notification that a case was dismissed pursuant to this section or Section 1203.4, 1203.4a, 1203.41, or 1203.42, the court shall update its records to reflect the dismissal and shall not disclose information concerning a conviction granted relief to any person or entity, in any format, except to the person whose conviction was granted relief or a criminal justice agency, as defined in Section 851.92.

(4) Relief granted pursuant to this section is subject to the following conditions:

(A) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not relieve a person of the obligation to disclose a criminal conviction in response to a direct question contained in a questionnaire or application for employment as a peace officer, as defined in Section 830.

(B) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not relieve a person of the obligation to disclose the conviction in response to a direct question contained in a questionnaire or application for public office, or for contracting with the California State Lottery Commission.

(C) Relief granted pursuant to this section has no effect on the ability of a criminal justice agency, as defined in Section 851.92, to access and use records that are granted relief to the same extent that would have been permitted for a criminal justice agency had relief not been granted.

(D) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not limit the jurisdiction of the court over a subsequently filed motion to amend the record, petition or motion for postconviction relief, or collateral attack on a conviction for which relief has been granted pursuant to this section.

(E) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not affect a person’s authorization to own, possess, or have in the person’s custody or control a firearm, or the person’s susceptibility to conviction under Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 29800) of Division 9 of Title 4 of Part 6, if the criminal conviction would otherwise affect this authorization or susceptibility.

(F) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not affect a prohibition from holding public office that would otherwise apply under law as a result of the criminal conviction.

(G) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not release a person from the terms and conditions of any unexpired criminal protective order that has been issued by the court pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (i) of Section 136.2, subdivision (j) of Section 273.5, subdivision (l) of Section 368, or subdivision (k) of Section 646.9. These protective orders shall remain in full effect until expiration or until any further order by the court modifying or terminating the order, despite the dismissal of the underlying conviction.

(H) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not affect the authority to receive, or take adverse action based on, criminal history information, including the authority to receive certified court records received or evaluated pursuant to Section 1522, 1568.09, 1569.17, or 1596.871 of the Health and Safety Code.
or pursuant to any statutory or regulatory provisions that incorporate the criteria of those sections.

(I) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not make eligible a person who is otherwise ineligible to provide, or receive payment for providing, in-home supportive services pursuant to Article 7 (commencing with Section 12300) of Chapter 3 of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, or pursuant to Section 14132.95, 14132.952, or 14132.956 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

(J) In a subsequent prosecution of the defendant for any other offense, the prior conviction may be pleaded and proved and shall have the same effect as if the relief had not been granted.

(K)(i) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not affect the authority to receive, or take adverse action based on, criminal history information, including the authority to receive certified court records received or evaluated pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 44000) of Chapter 1, Article 3 (commencing with Section 44240) and Article 8 (commencing with Section 44330) of Chapter 2, Article 1 (commencing with Section 44420) of Chapter 3, Article 3 (commencing with Section 44930) of Chapter 4, Article 1 (commencing with Section 45100) and Article 6 (commencing with Section 45240) of Chapter 5, of Part 25 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Education Code, or pursuant to any statutory or regulatory provisions that relate to, incorporate, expand upon or interpret the authority of those provisions.

(ii) Notwithstanding clause (i) or any other law, information for a conviction for a controlled substance offense listed in Section 11350 or 11377, or former Section 11500 or 11500.5, of the Health and Safety Code that is more than five years old, for which relief is granted pursuant to this section, shall not be disclosed.

(L) Relief granted pursuant to this section does not release the defendant from the terms and conditions of any unexpired criminal protective orders that have been issued by the court pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (i) of Section 136.2, subdivision (j) of Section 273.5, subdivision (l) of Section 368, or subdivision (k) of Section 646.9. These protective orders shall remain in full effect until expiration or until any further order by the court modifying or terminating the order, despite the dismissal of the underlying accusation or information.

(5) This section shall not limit petitions, motions, or orders for relief in a criminal case, as required or authorized by any other law, including, but not limited to, Sections 1016.5, 1203.4, 1203.4a, 1203.4b, 1203.41, 1203.42, 1203.49, and 1473.7. This section shall not limit petitions for a certificate of rehabilitation or pardon pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 4852.01) of Title 6 of Part 3.

(6) Commencing July 1, 2022, and subject to an appropriation in the annual Budget Act, the department shall annually publish statistics for each county regarding the
total number of convictions granted relief pursuant to this section and the total number of convictions prohibited from automatic relief pursuant to subdivision (b), on the Open Justice Web portal, as defined in Section 13010.

(b)(1) The prosecuting attorney or probation department may, no later than 90 calendar days before the date of a person’s eligibility for relief pursuant to this section, file a petition to prohibit the department from granting automatic relief pursuant to this section, based on a showing that granting that relief would pose a substantial threat to the public safety. If probation was transferred pursuant to Section 1203.9, the prosecuting attorney or probation department in either the receiving county or the transferring county shall file the petition in the county of current jurisdiction.

(2) The court shall give notice to the defendant and conduct a hearing on the petition within 45 days after the petition is filed.

(3) At a hearing on the petition pursuant to this subdivision, the defendant, the probation department, the prosecuting attorney, and the arresting agency, through the prosecuting attorney, may present evidence to the court. Notwithstanding Sections 1538.5 and 1539, the hearing may be heard and determined upon declarations, affidavits, police investigative reports, copies of state summary criminal history information and local summary criminal history information, or any other evidence submitted by the parties that is material, reliable, and relevant.

(4) The prosecutor or probation department has the initial burden of proof to show that granting conviction relief would pose a substantial threat to the public safety. In determining whether granting relief would pose a substantial threat to the public safety, the court may consider any relevant factors including, but not limited to, either of the following:

(A) Declarations or evidence regarding the offense for which a grant of relief is being contested.

(B) The defendant’s record of arrests and convictions.

(5) If the court finds that the prosecutor or probation department has satisfied the burden of proof, the burden shifts to the defendant to show that the hardship of not obtaining relief outweighs the threat to the public safety of providing relief. In determining whether the defendant’s hardship outweighs the threat to the public safety, the court may consider any relevant factors including, but not limited to, either of the following:

(A) The hardship to the defendant that has been caused by the conviction and that would be caused if relief is not granted.

(B) Declarations or evidence regarding the defendant’s good character.

(6) If the court grants a petition pursuant to this subdivision, the court shall furnish a disposition report to the Department of Justice pursuant to Section 13151, stating that relief pursuant to this section was denied, and the department shall not grant relief pursuant to this section. If probation was transferred pursuant to Section 1203.9, the department shall electronically submit a notice to the transferring court, and, if probation was transferred multiple times, to all other involved courts.
(7) A person denied relief pursuant to this section may continue to be eligible for relief pursuant to law, including, but not limited to, Section 1203.4, 1203.4a, 1203.4b, or 1203.41. If the court subsequently grants relief pursuant to one of those sections, the court shall furnish a disposition report to the Department of Justice pursuant to Section 13151, stating that relief was granted pursuant to the applicable section, and the department shall grant relief pursuant to that section. If probation was transferred pursuant to Section 1203.9, the department shall electronically submit a notice that relief was granted pursuant to the applicable section to the transferring court and, if probation was transferred multiple times, to all other involved courts.

(c) At the time of sentencing, the court shall advise a defendant, either orally or in writing, of the provisions of this section and of the defendant’s right, if any, to petition for a certificate of rehabilitation and pardon.

(d) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2023.

Section 4024 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4024.
(a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), “dispense” means the furnishing of drugs or devices upon a prescription from a physician, nurse practitioner practicing pursuant to Section 2837.103 or 2837.104, dentist, optometrist, podiatrist, veterinarian, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7, or upon an order to furnish drugs or transmit a prescription from a certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, practitioner practicing pursuant to Section 2836.1, physician assistant, naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.5, or pharmacist acting within the scope of his or her practice.

(b) “Dispense” also means and refers to the furnishing of drugs or devices directly to a patient by a physician, nurse practitioner practicing pursuant to Section 2837.103 or 2837.104, dentist, optometrist, podiatrist, or veterinarian, or by a certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, practitioner practicing pursuant to Section 2836.1, naturopathic doctor, or physician assistant acting within the scope of their practice.

Section 4040 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4040.
(a) “Prescription” means an oral, written, or electronic transmission order that is both of the following:
(1) Given individually for the person or persons for whom ordered that includes all of the following:
   (A) The name or names and address of the patient or patients.
   (B) The name and quantity of the drug or device prescribed and the directions for use.
   (C) The date of issue.
(D) Either rubber stamped, typed, or printed by hand or typeset, the name, address, and telephone number of the prescriber, the prescriber’s license classification, and the prescriber’s federal registry number, if a controlled substance is prescribed.

(E) A legible, clear notice of the condition or purpose for which the drug is being prescribed, if requested by the patient or patients.

(F) If in writing, signed by the prescriber issuing the order, or the certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or naturopathic doctor who issues a drug order pursuant to Section 2746.51, 2836.1, 3502.1, or 3640.5, respectively, or the pharmacist who issues a drug order pursuant to Section 4052.1, 4052.2, or 4052.6.

(2) Issued by a physician, dentist, optometrist, doctor of podiatric medicine, veterinarian, or nurse practitioner practicing pursuant to Section 2837.103 or 2837.104, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7 or, if a drug order is issued pursuant to Section 2746.51, 2836.1, 3502.1, or 3460.5, by a certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or naturopathic doctor licensed in this state, or pursuant to Section 4052.1, 4052.2, or 4052.6 by a pharmacist licensed in this state.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a written order of the prescriber for a dangerous drug, except for any Schedule II controlled substance, that contains at least the name and signature of the prescriber, the name and address of the patient in a manner consistent with paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 11164 of the Health and Safety Code, the name and quantity of the drug prescribed, directions for use, and the date of issue may be treated as a prescription by the dispensing pharmacist as long as any additional information required by subdivision (a) is readily retrievable in the pharmacy. In the event of a conflict between this subdivision and Section 11164 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 11164 of the Health and Safety Code shall prevail.

(c) "Electronic transmission prescription" includes both image and data prescriptions. "Electronic image transmission prescription" means any prescription order for which a facsimile of the order is received by a pharmacy from a licensed prescriber. "Electronic data transmission prescription" means any prescription order, other than an electronic image transmission prescription, that is electronically transmitted from a licensed prescriber to a pharmacy.

(d) The use of commonly used abbreviations shall not invalidate an otherwise valid prescription.

Section 4052.01 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4052.01. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a pharmacist may furnish naloxone hydrochloride, federal Food and Drug Administration-approved opioid antagonist in accordance with standardized procedures or protocols developed and approved by both the board and the Medical Board of California, in consultation with the California Society of Addiction Medicine, the California Pharmacists Association, and
other appropriate entities. In developing those standardized procedures or protocols, the board and the Medical Board of California shall include the following:

(1) Procedures to ensure education of the person to whom the drug is furnished, including, but not limited to, opioid overdose prevention, recognition, and response, safe administration of naloxone hydrochloride, opioid antagonists, potential side effects or adverse events, and the imperative to seek emergency medical care for the patient.

(2) Procedures to ensure the education of the person to whom the drug is furnished regarding the availability of drug treatment programs.

(3) Procedures for the notification of the patient’s primary care provider with patient consent of any drugs or devices furnished to the patient, or entry of appropriate information in a patient record system shared with the primary care provider, as permitted by that primary care provider, and with patient consent.

(b) A pharmacist furnishing naloxone hydrochloride, an opioid antagonist, pursuant to this section shall not permit the person to whom the drug is furnished to waive the consultation required by the board and the Medical Board of California.

(c) Prior to performing a procedure authorized under this section, a pharmacist shall complete a training program on the use of opioid antagonists that consists of at least one hour of approved continuing education on the use of naloxone hydrochloride, opioid antagonists.

(d) The board and the Medical Board of California are each authorized to ensure compliance with this section. Each board is specifically charged with enforcing this section with respect to its respective licensees. This section does not expand the authority of a pharmacist to prescribe any prescription medication.

(e) The board may adopt emergency regulations to establish the standardized procedures or protocols. The adoption of regulations pursuant to this subdivision shall be deemed to be an emergency and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, safety, or general welfare. The emergency regulations authorized by this subdivision are exempt from review by the Office of Administrative Law. The emergency regulations authorized by this subdivision shall be submitted to the Office of Administrative Law for filing with the Secretary of State and shall remain in effect until the earlier of 180 days following their effective date or the effective date of regulations adopted pursuant to subdivision (a).

Section 4060 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4060.
A person shall not possess any controlled substance, except that furnished to a person upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or nurse practitioner practicing pursuant to Section 2837.103 or 2837.104, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7, or furnished pursuant to a drug order issued by a certified nurse-midwife pursuant to Section 2746.51, a nurse practitioner practicing pursuant to Section 2836.1, a physician assistant pursuant to Section 3502.1, a naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.5, or a pharmacist pursuant to Section 4052.1, 4052.2, or 4052.6. This section does not apply to the possession of any controlled substance by a manufacturer, wholesaler, third-party logistics provider, pharmacy, pharmacist,
physician, podiatrist, dentist, optometrist, veterinarian, naturopathic doctor, certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, if in stock in containers correctly labeled with the name and address of the supplier or producer.

This section does not authorize a certified nurse-midwife, a nurse practitioner, practitioner practicing pursuant to Section 2836.1, a physician assistant, or a naturopathic doctor, to order his or her their own stock of dangerous drugs and devices.

Section 4061 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4061.
(a) No manufacturer's sales representative shall distribute any dangerous drug or dangerous device as a complimentary sample without the written request of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, veterinarian, or nurse practitioner practicing pursuant to Section 2837.103 or 2837.104, or naturopathic doctor pursuant to Section 3640.7. However, a certified nurse-midwife who functions pursuant to a standardized procedure or protocol described in Section 2746.51, a nurse practitioner who functions pursuant to a standardized procedure described in Section 2836.1, or protocol, a physician assistant who functions pursuant to a protocol described in Section 3502.1, or a naturopathic doctor who functions pursuant to a standardized procedure or protocol described in Section 3640.5, may sign for the request and receipt of complimentary samples of a dangerous drug or dangerous device that has been identified in the standardized procedure, protocol, or practice agreement. Standardized procedures, protocols, and practice agreements shall include specific approval by a physician. A review process, consistent with the requirements of Section 2725, 3502.1, or 3640.5, of the complimentary samples requested and received by a nurse practitioner, practitioner practicing pursuant to Section 2836.1, certified nurse-midwife, physician assistant, or naturopathic doctor, shall be defined within the standardized procedure, protocol, or practice agreement.

(b) Each written request shall contain the names and addresses of the supplier and the requester, the name and quantity of the specific dangerous drug desired, the name of the certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or naturopathic doctor, if applicable, receiving the samples pursuant to this section, the date of receipt, and the name and quantity of the dangerous drugs or dangerous devices provided. These records shall be preserved by the supplier with the records required by Section 4059.

(c) Nothing in this section is intended to expand the scope of practice of a certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, physician assistant, or naturopathic doctor.

Section 4110.5 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

4110.5. Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, a county, city and county, or special hospital authority described in Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 101850) or Chapter 5.5 (commencing with Section 101852) of Part 4 of Division 101 of the Health and
Safety Code may operate a mobile unit to provide prescription medication within its jurisdiction to those individuals without fixed addresses, individuals living in county-owned or city-and-county-owned housing facilities, and those enrolled in Medi-Cal plans operated by the county or a city and county, a health district, or a joint powers authority pursuant to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 14000) or Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 14200) of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code. The mobile unit shall be operated as an extension of a pharmacy license held by the county, city and county, or special hospital authority. The mobile unit may dispense prescription medication pursuant to a valid prescription, including a prescription of a physician who practices in the mobile unit, if the county, city and county, or special hospital authority meets all of the following requirements:

(a) A licensed pharmacist is on the premises and the mobile unit is under the control and management of a pharmacist while prescription medications are being dispensed.

(b) All activities of the pharmacist, including the furnishing of medication by the pharmacist, are consistent with Article 3 (commencing with Section 4050).

(c) If a physician is practicing in the mobile unit, all prescribing by the physician meets the requirements of the Medical Practice Act (Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 2000)).

(d) The mobile unit does not carry or dispense controlled substances.

(e) Dangerous drugs shall not be left in the mobile unit during the hours that the mobile unit is not in operation.

(f) At least 30 days prior to commencing operation of a mobile unit, a county, city and county, or special hospital authority shall notify the board of its intention to operate a mobile unit. Notice shall also be given to the board at least 30 days prior to discontinuing operation of a mobile unit.

Section 4126.10 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4126.10.

(a) A pharmacy located in California may distribute compounded human drug preparations interstate only if all of the following conditions are met:

1. Between January 1 and March 31 of each year, the pharmacy reports all required data for the previous calendar year into the Information Sharing Network established by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy in conjunction with the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to implement the Memorandum of Understanding Addressing Certain Distributions of Compounded Human Drug Products.

2. On an annual basis, in connection with and as a condition of renewal of the pharmacy’s license, the pharmacist-in-charge of the pharmacy certifies that the reporting requirements of paragraph (1) have been satisfied.

3. The pharmacy reports any adverse drug experience and product quality issue for any compounded product to the board within 12 hours after the pharmacy receives notice of the adverse drug experience or product quality issue.

(b) Information reported by the board to the FDA directly or through the Information Sharing Network established by the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy in
conjunction with the FDA to implement the Memorandum of Understanding
Addressing Certain Distributions of Compounded Human Drug Products shall not be
subject to public disclosure under the California Public Records Act (Chapter
3.5 (Division 10 (commencing with Section 6250) of Division 7 of—7920.000) of Title

Section 4170 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4170.
(a) No A prescriber shall not dispense drugs or dangerous devices to patients in his or
her the prescriber’s office or place of practice unless all of the following conditions
are met:
(1) The dangerous drugs or dangerous devices are dispensed to the prescriber’s
own patient, and the drugs or dangerous devices are not furnished by a nurse or
physician attendant.
(2) The dangerous drugs or dangerous devices are necessary in the treatment of the
condition for which the prescriber is attending the patient.
(3) The prescriber does not keep a pharmacy, open shop, or drugstore, advertised
or otherwise, for the retailing of dangerous drugs, dangerous devices, or poisons.
(4) The prescriber fulfills all of the labeling requirements imposed upon pharmacists
by Section 4076, all of the recordkeeping requirements of this chapter, and all of
the packaging requirements of good pharmaceutical practice, including the use of
childproof containers.
(5) The prescriber does not use a dispensing device unless he or the
prescriber personally owns the device and the contents of the device, and
personally dispenses the dangerous drugs or dangerous devices to the patient
packaged, labeled, and recorded in accordance with paragraph (4).
(6) The prescriber, prior to dispensing, offers to give a written prescription to
the patient that the patient may elect to have filled by the prescriber or by any
pharmacy.
(7) The prescriber provides the patient with written disclosure that the patient has a
choice between obtaining the prescription from the dispensing prescriber or
obtaining the prescription at a pharmacy of the patient’s choice.
(8) A certified nurse-midwife who functions pursuant to a standardized procedure or
protocol described in Section 2746.51, a nurse practitioner who functions
pursuant to a standardized procedure described in Section 2836.1, or protocol, a
physician assistant who functions pursuant to Section 3502.1, or a naturopathic
doctor who functions pursuant to Section 3640.5, may hand to a patient of the
supervising physician and surgeon a properly labeled prescription drug
prepackaged by a physician and surgeon, a manufacturer as defined in this
chapter, or a pharmacist.

(b) The Medical Board of California, the California State Board of Optometry, the
Bureau of Naturopathic Medicine, the Dental Board of California,
the California Podiatric Medical Board of Podiatric Medicine, California, the
Osteopathic Medical Board of California, the Board of Registered Nursing, the
Veterinary Medical Board, and the Physician Assistant Committee Board shall have
authority with the California State Board of Pharmacy to ensure compliance with this section, and those boards are specifically charged with the enforcement of this chapter with respect to their respective licensees.

(c) “Prescriber,” as used in this section, means a person, who holds a physician’s and surgeon’s certificate, a license to practice optometry, a license to practice naturopathic medicine, a license to practice dentistry, a license to practice veterinary medicine, a certificate to practice podiatry, or a certificate to practice podiatry, as a nurse practitioner practicing pursuant to Section 2837.103 or 2837.104, and who is duly registered by the Medical Board of California, the Osteopathic Medical Board of California, the California State Board of Optometry, the Bureau of Naturopathic Medicine, the Dental Board of California, the Veterinary Medical Board, the Podiatric Medical Board of California, or the California Board of Podiatric Medicine. Registered Nursing.
Section 4174 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4174.
Notwithstanding any other law, a pharmacist may dispense drugs or devices upon the drug order of a nurse practitioner functioning pursuant to Section 2836.1 or 2836.1, 2837.103, or 2837.104, or a certified nurse-midwife functioning pursuant to Section 2746.51, a drug order of a physician assistant functioning pursuant to Section 3502.1 or a naturopathic doctor functioning pursuant to Section 3640.5, or the order of a pharmacist acting under Section 4052.1, 4052.2, 4052.3, or 4052.6.

Section 4175 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4175.
(a) The California State Board of Pharmacy shall promptly forward to the appropriate licensing entity, including the Medical Board of California, the Veterinary Medical Board, the Dental Board of California, the California State Board of Optometry, the California Board of Podiatric Medicine, the Osteopathic Medical Board of California, the Board of Registered Nursing, the Bureau of Naturopathic Medicine, or the Physician Assistant Committee, all complaints received related to dangerous drugs or dangerous devices dispensed by a prescriber, certified nurse-midwife, nurse practitioner, naturopathic doctor, or physician assistant pursuant to Section 4170.

(b) All complaints involving serious bodily injury due to dangerous drugs or dangerous devices dispensed by prescribers, certified nurse-midwives, nurse practitioners, naturopathic doctors, or physician assistants pursuant to Section 4170 shall be handled by the Medical Board of California, the Dental Board of California, the California State Board of Optometry, the California Board of Podiatric Medicine, the Osteopathic Medical Board of California, the Bureau of Naturopathic Medicine, the Board of Registered Nursing, the Veterinary Medical Board, or the Physician Assistant Committee as a case of greatest potential harm to a patient.

Section 4202 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4202.
(a) The board may issue a pharmacy technician license to an individual if he or she the applicant is a high school graduate or possesses a general educational development certificate equivalent, and meets any one of the following requirements:

1. Has obtained an associate’s degree in pharmacy technology.
2. Has completed a course of training specified by the board.
3. Has graduated from a school of pharmacy recognized by the board.
4. Is certified by a pharmacy technician certifying organization offering a pharmacy technician certification program accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies that is approved by the board.

(b) The board shall adopt regulations pursuant to this section for the licensure of pharmacy technicians and for the specification of training courses as set out in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a). Proof of the qualifications of any applicant for
licensure as a pharmacy technician shall be made to the satisfaction of the board and shall be substantiated by any evidence required by the board.

c) The board shall conduct a criminal background check of the applicant to determine if an applicant has committed acts that would constitute grounds for denial of licensure, pursuant to this chapter or Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 480) of Division 1.5.

d) The board may suspend or revoke a license issued pursuant to this section on any ground specified in Section 4301.

e) Once an individual is licensed as a pharmacist, the pharmacy technician registration is no longer valid and the pharmacy technician license shall be returned to the board within 15 days.

(f) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2024, and as of that date is repealed.

Section 4202 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

4202.
(a) The board may issue a pharmacy technician license to an individual if the applicant is a high school graduate or possesses a general educational development certificate equivalent, and meets any one of the following requirements:
(1) Has obtained an associate’s degree in pharmacy technology.
(2) Has completed a course of training specified by the board.
(3) Has graduated from a school of pharmacy recognized by the board.
(4) Is certified by a pharmacy technician certifying organization offering a pharmacy technician certification program accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies that is approved by the board.

(b) The board shall adopt regulations pursuant to this section for the licensure of pharmacy technicians and for the specification of training courses as set out in paragraph (2) of subdivision (a). Proof of the qualifications of any applicant for licensure as a pharmacy technician shall be made to the satisfaction of the board and shall be substantiated by any evidence required by the board.

(c) The board shall conduct a criminal background check of the applicant to determine if an applicant has committed acts that would constitute grounds for denial of licensure, pursuant to this chapter or Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 480) of Division 1.5.

(d) The board shall not renew a pharmacy technician license unless the applicant submits proof satisfactory to the board that the applicant has successfully completed at least one hour of participation in a cultural competency course, as defined in Section 4231, during the two years preceding the application for renewal.

(e) The board may suspend or revoke a license issued pursuant to this section on any ground specified in Section 4301.

(f) Once an individual is licensed as a pharmacist, the pharmacy technician registration is no longer valid and the pharmacy technician license shall be returned to the board within 15 days.

(g) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2024.
Section 4231 of the Business and Professions Code is amended to read:

4231.
(a) The board shall not renew a pharmacist license unless the applicant submits proof satisfactory to the board that he or she has successfully completed 30 hours of approved courses of continuing pharmacy education during the two years preceding the application for renewal.
(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the board shall not require completion of continuing education for the first renewal of a pharmacist license.
(c) If an applicant for renewal of a pharmacist license submits the renewal application and payment of the renewal fee but does not submit proof satisfactory to the board that the licensee has completed 30 hours of continuing pharmacy education, the board shall not renew the license and shall issue the applicant an inactive pharmacist license. A licensee with an inactive pharmacist license issued pursuant to this section may obtain an active pharmacist license by paying the renewal fees due and submitting satisfactory proof to the board that the licensee has completed 30 hours of continuing pharmacy education.
(d) If, as part of an investigation or audit conducted by the board, a pharmacist fails to provide documentation substantiating the completion of continuing education as required in subdivision (a), the board shall cancel the active pharmacist license and issue an inactive pharmacist license in its place. A licensee with an inactive pharmacist license issued pursuant to this section may obtain an active pharmacist license by paying the renewal fees due and submitting satisfactory proof to the board that the licensee has completed 30 hours of continuing pharmacy education.
(e) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2024, and as of that date is repealed.

Section 4231 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

4231.
(a) For purposes of this section, “cultural competency course” means a cultural competency and humility course that meets the following criteria:
   (1) The course focuses on patients who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, gender nonconforming, or queer, or who question their sexual orientation or gender identity and expression.
   (2) The course is approved from an accreditation agency approved by the board.
   (3) The course covers recognized health disparities faced by Black, Indigenous, and people of color.
   (4) The course contains elements demonstrating how sexual identity is directly impacted through intersectionality.
(b) The board shall not renew a pharmacist license unless the applicant submits proof satisfactory to the board that the applicant has successfully completed 30 hours of approved courses of continuing pharmacy education, including at least one hour of participation in a cultural competency course, during the two years preceding the application for renewal.
(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), the board shall not require completion of continuing education for the first renewal of a pharmacist license.

(d) If an applicant for renewal of a pharmacist license submits the renewal application and payment of the renewal fee but does not submit proof satisfactory to the board that the licensee has completed 30 hours of continuing pharmacy education, the board shall not renew the license and shall issue the applicant an inactive pharmacist license. A licensee with an inactive pharmacist license issued pursuant to this section may obtain an active pharmacist license by paying the renewal fees due and submitting satisfactory proof to the board that the licensee has completed 30 hours of continuing pharmacy education.

(e) If, as part of an investigation or audit conducted by the board, a pharmacist fails to provide documentation substantiating the completion of continuing education as required in subdivision (b), the board shall cancel the active pharmacist license and issue an inactive pharmacist license in its place. A licensee with an inactive pharmacist license issued pursuant to this section may obtain an active pharmacist license by paying the renewal fees due and submitting satisfactory proof to the board that the licensee has completed 30 hours of continuing pharmacy education.

(f) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2024.

Health and Safety Code

Section 1649.1 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

1649.1. Unless the context requires otherwise, the following definitions shall apply to this chapter:

(a) “Compassionate Use Act of 1996” means the initiative measure enacted by the approval of Proposition 215 at the November 5, 1996, statewide general election and found at Section 11362.5, and any amendments to that act.

(b)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), “health care facility” means a health facility specified in subdivision (a), (c), (f), (i), or (n) of Section 1250.

(2) The meaning of “health care facility” shall not include a chemical dependency recovery hospital or a state hospital. any of the following:

(A) A chemical dependency recovery hospital.

(B) A state hospital.

(C) An emergency department of a health care facility, as specified in subdivision (a) of Section 1250, while the patient is receiving emergency services and care.

(c) “Medicinal cannabis” means cannabis or a cannabis product used in compliance with the Compassionate Use Act of 1996 and Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 11362.7) of Chapter 6 of Division 10.

(d) “Patient” means an individual who is terminally ill. “Patient” does not include an individual receiving emergency services and care, as defined in Section 1317.1.

(e) “Terminally ill” means a medical condition resulting in a prognosis of life of one year or less, if the disease follows its natural course.
Section 1649.2 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

1649.2. (a) A health care facility shall permit patient use of medical cannabis and shall do all of the following:
(1) Prohibit smoking or vaping as methods to use medicinal cannabis.
(2) Include the use of medicinal cannabis within the patient’s medical records.
(3) Require a patient to provide a copy of the patient’s valid identification card, as described in Section 11362.715, or a copy of that patient’s written documentation as defined in Section 11362.7.
(4) Require a patient or a primary caregiver, as defined in Section 11362.7, to be responsible for acquiring, retrieving, administering, and removing medicinal cannabis.
(5) Reasonably restrict the manner in which a patient stores and uses medicinal cannabis, including requiring the medicinal cannabis to be stored securely at all times in a locked container, to ensure the safety of other patients, guests, and employees of the health care facility, compliance with other state laws, and the safe operations of the health care facility. Container in the patient’s room, other designated area, or with the patient’s primary caregiver.
(f) Prohibit health care professionals and facility staff, including, but not limited to, physicians, nurses, and pharmacists, from administering medicinal cannabis or retrieving medicinal cannabis from storage.
(g) Develop and disseminate written guidelines for the use and disposal of medicinal cannabis within the health care facility pursuant to this chapter.

(b) This section does not apply to a patient receiving emergency services and care, as defined in Section 1317.1, or to the emergency department of a health care facility, as specified in subdivision (a) of Section 1250, while the patient is receiving emergency services and care.

Section 1649.3 of the Health and Safety Code is repealed.

1649.3. Notwithstanding the classification of medicinal cannabis as a Schedule I drug and any other law, health facilities permitting patient use of medicinal cannabis shall comply with drug and medication requirements applicable to Schedule II, III, and IV drugs and shall be subject to enforcement actions by the State Department of Public Health.

Section 1649.3 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

1649.3. Upon discharge, all remaining medicinal cannabis shall be removed by the patient or patient’s primary caregiver. If a patient cannot remove the medicinal cannabis and does not have a primary caregiver that is available to remove the medicinal cannabis, the
product shall be stored in a locked container until it is disposed of in accordance with the health facility policy and procedure governing medicinal cannabis.

Section 1649.4 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

1649.4.
This chapter does not require a health care facility to provide or furnish a patient with a recommendation to use medicinal cannabis in compliance with the Compassionate Use Act of 1996 and Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 11362.7) of Chapter 6 of Division 10 or include medicinal cannabis in a patient’s discharge plan.

Section 1649.5 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

1649.5.
(a) This chapter shall be enforced by the State Department of Public Health.
(b)(c) Compliance with this chapter shall not be a condition for obtaining, retaining, or renewing a license as a health care facility.
(b)(c) This chapter does not reduce, expand, or otherwise modify the laws restricting the cultivation, possession, distribution, or use of cannabis that may be otherwise applicable, including, but not limited to, the Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act, an initiative measure enacted by the approval of Proposition 64 at the November 8, 2016, statewide general election, and any amendments to that act.

Section 150202 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

150202.
(a) Notwithstanding any other law, a donor organization is defined, for purposes of this division, to refer to one of the following health and care facilities that may donate centrally stored unused medications under a program established pursuant to this division: facilities, hospitals, and entities that legally possess centrally stored, unused medication:
(1) A licensed general acute care hospital, as defined in Section 1250.
(2) A licensed acute psychiatric hospital, as defined in Section 1250.
(3) A licensed skilled nursing facility, as defined in Section 1250, including a skilled nursing facility designated as an institution for mental disease.
(4) A licensed intermediate care facility, as defined in Section 1250.
(5) A licensed intermediate care facility/developmentally disabled-habilitative facility, as defined in Section 1250.
(6) A licensed intermediate care facility/developmentally disabled-nursing facility, as defined in Section 1250.
(7) A licensed correctional treatment center, as defined in Section 1250.
(8) A licensed psychiatric health facility, as defined in Section 1250.2.
(9) A licensed chemical dependency recovery hospital, as defined in Section 1250.3.
(10) A licensed residential care facility for the elderly, as defined in Section 1569.2, with 16 or more residents.

(11) An approved mental health rehabilitation center, as described in Section 5675 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

(12) An eligible entity, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 150201.

(13) A juvenile facility, as described in Section 208.3 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

(14) A local detention facility, as described in Section 6031.4 of the Penal Code.

(15) A facility that is any of the following:
   (A) Licensed by the State Department of Social Services.
   (B) Licensed by the State Department of Public Health.
   (C) Licensed by the State Department of Health Care Services.
   (D) Licensed by or under the jurisdiction of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.
   (E) Licensed by or under the jurisdiction of the Division of Juvenile Justice.

(16) A licensed home health agency, as defined in Section 1725.

(17) A licensed hospice agency, as defined in Section 1745.

(18) A licensed hospice facility, as defined in subdivision (n) of Section 1250.

(b) Medication donated by health and care facilities pursuant to subdivision (a) shall meet the requirements of subdivisions (c) and (d) of Section 150204 and shall be unexpired medication that would have otherwise been destroyed by the facility or another appropriate entity.

(c) Medication eligible for donation by the health and care facilities pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be directly delivered from the dispensing pharmacy, wholesaler or manufacturer, to the health or care facility and subsequently centrally stored. Centrally stored medication that originated from a patient or resident is not eligible for donation under this division.

Section 150202.5 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

150202.5.
Notwithstanding any other law, a pharmacy, licensed in California and not on probation with the California State Board of Pharmacy, whose primary or sole type of pharmacy practice type is limited to a skilled nursing facility, home health care, board and care, or mail order, may donate unused, unexpired medication that meets the requirements of subdivisions (c) and (d) of Section 150204, under a program established pursuant to this division and that meets either of the following requirements:
(a) The medication was received directly from a manufacturer or wholesaler.
(b) The medication was returned from a health facility to the issuing pharmacy, in a manner consistent with state and federal law.
Section 150204.5 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

150204.5.
(a)(1) A regional pilot program may be established in the Counties of Santa Clara and San Mateo and the City and County of San Francisco to determine the feasibility and benefits of implementing and maintaining a repository and distribution program. The regional pilot program shall run until January 1, 2030.
(b) Participating pharmacies in the regional pilot program shall be owned or operated by the Counties of Santa Clara or San Mateo or the City and County of San Francisco, licensed in California, and not on probation with the California State Board of Pharmacy.
(c)(1) Participants in the regional pilot program shall develop and implement their programs in accordance with this division.
(2) While participating in the regional pilot program, participants shall continue to meet all other legal responsibilities and requirements relating to pharmacy services and comply with all relevant state and federal statutes when administering their programs.
(d) Section 150204 shall not apply to a pilot program established pursuant to this section and Section 150204.6

Section 150204.6 is added to the Health and Safety Code, to read:

150204.6.
(a)(1) A county specified in Section 150204.5 may establish, by an action of the county board of supervisors or by an action of the public health officer of the county, as directed by the county board of supervisors, a repository and distribution program for purposes of this division. The county shall advise the California State Board of Pharmacy within 30 days from the date it establishes a repository and distribution program.
(2) Only an eligible entity, pursuant to Section 150201, may participate in this program to dispense medication donated to the drug repository and distribution program.
(3) An eligible entity that seeks to participate in the program shall inform the county health department and the California State Board of Pharmacy in writing of its intent to participate in the program. An eligible entity may not participate in the program until it has received written or electronic documentation from the county health department confirming that the department has received its notice of intent.
(4)(A) A participating primary care clinic, as described in Section 150201, shall disclose to the county health department the name of the licensed physician who shall be accountable to the California State Board of Pharmacy for the clinic's program operations pursuant to this division. This physician shall be the
professional director, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 4182 of the Business and Professions Code.

(B) The county board of supervisors or public health officer of the county shall, upon request, make available to the California State Board of Pharmacy the information in this division.

(5) The county board of supervisors, the public health officer of the county, and the California State Board of Pharmacy may prohibit an eligible or participating entity from participating in the program if the entity does not comply with the provisions of the program, pursuant to this division. If the county board of supervisors, the public health officer of the county, or the California State Board of Pharmacy prohibits an eligible or participating entity from participating in the program, it shall provide written notice to the prohibited entity within 15 days of making this determination. The county board of supervisors, the public health officer of the county, and the California State Board of Pharmacy shall each ensure that this notice is also provided to the other two entities.

(b) A county that elects to establish a repository and distribution program pursuant to this division shall establish written procedures for, at a minimum, all of the following:

(1) Establishing eligibility for medically indigent patients who may participate in the program.

(2) Ensuring that patients eligible for the program shall not be charged for any medications provided under the program.

(3) Developing a formulary of medications appropriate for the repository and distribution program.

(4) Ensuring proper safety and management of any medications collected by and maintained under the authority of a participating entity.

(5) Ensuring the privacy of individuals for whom the medication was originally prescribed.

(c) Medication donated to the repository and distribution program or transferred between participating entities shall comply with the requirements specified in this division. Medication donated to the repository and distribution program shall meet all of the following criteria:

(1) The medication shall not be a controlled substance.

(2) The medication shall not have been adulterated, misbranded, or stored under conditions contrary to standards set by the United States Pharmacopoeia (USP) or the product manufacturer.

(3) The medication shall not have been in the possession of a patient or any individual member of the public, and in the case of medications donated by a hospital, facility, or entity, as described in Section 150202, shall have been under the control of a staff member of the health or care facility who is licensed in California as a health care professional or has completed, at a minimum, the training requirements specified in Section 1569.69.

(d)(1) Only medication that is donated in unopened, tamper-evident packaging or modified unit dose containers that meet USP standards is eligible for donation to the
repository and distribution program, provided lot numbers and expiration dates are affixed. Medication donated in opened containers shall not be dispensed by the repository and distribution program, and once identified, shall be quarantined immediately and handled and disposed of in accordance with the Medical Waste Management Act (Part 14 (commencing with Section 117600) of Division 104).

(2)(A) A medication that is the subject of a United States Food and Drug Administration managed risk evaluation and mitigation strategy pursuant to Section 355-1 of Title 21 of the United States Code shall not be donated if this inventory transfer is prohibited by that strategy, or if the inventory transfer requires prior authorization from the manufacturer of the medication.

(B) A medication that is the subject of a United States Food and Drug Administration managed risk evaluation and mitigation strategy pursuant to Section 355-1 of Title 21 of the United States Code, the donation of which is not prohibited pursuant to subparagraph (A), shall be managed and dispensed according to the requirements of that strategy.

(e) A pharmacist or physician at a participating entity shall use their professional judgment in determining whether donated medication meets the standards of this division before accepting or dispensing medication under the repository and distribution program.

(f) A pharmacist or physician shall adhere to standard pharmacy practices, as required by state and federal law, when dispensing all medications.

(g) Medication that is donated to the repository and distribution program shall be handled in the following ways:

1. Dispensed to an eligible patient.
2. Destroyed.
3. Returned to a reverse distributor or licensed waste hauler.
4. (A) Transferred to another participating entity within the county to be dispensed to eligible patients pursuant to this division. Notwithstanding this paragraph, a participating county-owned pharmacy may transfer eligible donated medication to a participating county-owned pharmacy within another adjacent county that has adopted a program pursuant to this division, if the pharmacies transferring the medication have a written agreement between the entities that outlines protocols and procedures for safe and appropriate drug transfer that are consistent with this division.

(B) Medication donated under this division may be transferred more than once only within the county and after the final transfer shall be dispensed to an eligible patient, destroyed, or returned to a reverse distributor or licensed waste hauler.

(C) Medication transferred pursuant to this paragraph shall be transferred with documentation that identifies the drug name, strength, and quantity of the medication, original manufacturer lot numbers, and current expiration date. The document shall include a statement that the medication shall be handled pursuant to subparagraph (B). A copy of this document shall be kept by the
participating entity transferring the medication and the participating entity receiving the medication.

(D) Medication donated from multiple facilities under this division may be commingled by the participating entity. However, in the event of a recall, recalled medication shall be destroyed at the National Drug Code level.

(E) Participating facilities shall maintain a system for recording and logging donated medication which allows the tracking of medication in each repackaged container back to the facility or facilities that donated the medication.

(h) Medication that is donated to the repository and distribution program that does not meet the requirements of this division shall not be distributed or transferred under this program and shall be either destroyed or returned to a reverse distributor. Donated medication that does not meet the requirements of this division shall not be sold, dispensed, or otherwise transferred to any other entity.

(i)(1) When dispensed to an eligible patient under this program, the donated medication shall be in a new, properly labeled container, specific to the eligible patient and ensuring the privacy of the individuals for whom the medication was initially dispensed. However, medications donated in sealed manufacturer's packaging are not required to be placed into a new container, but shall otherwise be appropriately labeled. Expired medication shall not be dispensed.

(2) The pharmacy shall have repackaging policies and procedures in place for identifying and recalling medications. Medication that is repackaged shall be labeled with the earliest expiration date. Repackaged medication can only be dispensed to patients within the county.

(j) A participating entity shall keep complete records of the acquisition and disposition of medication donated to, and transferred, dispensed, and destroyed under, the repository and distribution program. Notwithstanding any other law, the acquisition record created by a participating entity may be used as the donation, destruction, or disposition record required of a donor organization for donated medication.

(k) Local and county protocols established pursuant to this division shall conform to the Pharmacy Law regarding packaging, transporting, storing, and dispensing all medications.

(l) County protocols established for packaging, transporting, storing, and dispensing medications that require refrigeration, including, but not limited to, a biological product as defined in Section 351 of the federal Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 262), an intravenously injected drug, or an infused drug, shall include specific procedures to ensure that these medications are packaged, transported, stored, and dispensed at appropriate temperatures and in accordance with USP standards and the Pharmacy Law.

(m) Notwithstanding any other law, a participating entity shall follow the same federal and state procedural drug pedigree requirements for donated drugs as it would follow for drugs purchased from a wholesaler or directly from a drug manufacturer.
(n) On January 1, 2028, the Board of Pharmacy shall submit to the Legislature an evaluation of the regional pilot programs and pilot participants’ compliance to program requirements as specified in this division. The report shall comply with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

(o) A participating entity shall disclose to the Board of Pharmacy any “medication errors,” as that term is described in Section 1716 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations, arising out of a program under this division, within 30 days of a participating entity discovering the medication error.

(p) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

Section 150205 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

150205.
(a) The following persons and entities shall not be subject to criminal or civil liability for injury caused when donating, accepting, or dispensing any entity or person donates, accepts, or dispenses prescription drugs in compliance with this division:
(1) A prescription drug manufacturer, wholesaler, governmental entity, or participating entity.
(2) A pharmacist or physician who accepts or dispenses prescription drugs.
(3) A licensed health or care facility, as described in Section 150202, or a pharmacy, as described in Section 150202.5.
(b) A surplus medication collection and distribution intermediary, as described in Section 150208, shall not be subject to criminal or civil liability for injury caused when facilitating the donation of medications to or transfer of medications in compliance with this division.