

# Pharmacist Prescribed Hormonal Contraceptives

## HB5809 –Representative Michelle Mussman, D-Schaumburg

### Please Vote Yes!

**HB5809** - Amends the Pharmacy Practice Act to expand Illinois women’s access to hormonal contraceptives! While a landmark bill in Illinois, this legislation very closely copies a recently pass law in the State of Oregon that allows pharmacists to prescribe and dispense topical patch and oral hormonal contraceptives.

**Safeguards** – The bill includes several safeguards that will ensure that women who receive these pharmacist prescribed products, take them safely and follow-up with their primary health care provider.

- Pharmacists are required to obtain Department of Financial and Professional Regulation approved training and education prior to taking on this responsibility.
- Pharmacists are required to provide patients with a self-administered risk-assessment tool prior to the prescribing and dispensing of the contraceptives.
- Pharmacists are required to refer each patient to their primary care practitioner or a women’s health practitioner upon prescribing and dispensing the contraceptives.
- Pharmacists are required to provide the patient with a written record of the hormonal contraceptive and advise the patient to consult with a primary care or women’s health practitioner.
- Pharmacists may not prescribe or dispense hormonal contraceptives if the patient does not provide proof of a visit to a primary care or women’s health practitioner within 3 years immediately following the initial prescription and dispensing of the hormonal contraceptive.

ICHP and IPHA believe this new responsibility will not be provided by all pharmacists but will increase the collaboration between those pharmacists who do provide this service and the patient’s primary care and women’s health practitioners in providing more and better access to hormonal contraceptives. The purpose is to prevent unplanned and unwanted pregnancies around Illinois.

**“It makes no sense that men should have unrestricted access to contraceptives, while women must first get a prescription from their physician...As a doctor, I believe birth control should be as easy and accessible as possible. If a woman wants to purchase birth control at her local pharmacy, she should be able to do that without having to schedule an appointment with a doctor.”**

*- Representative Knute Buehler, an orthopedic surgeon who introduced Oregon’s legislation*

Pharmacists are the most accessible health care provider and receive the most extensive training on the proper use of all medications. It only makes sense to utilize these accessible and highly trained health care providers to expand access to this important aspect of health care.



**Vote Yes for HB5809!**

