



COLORADO

**Department of
Regulatory Agencies**

Division of Professions and Occupations

2025 Legislative Update

HB 25-1222: Preserving Access to Rural Pharmacies

Implementation of HB25-1222

On May 27, 2025, Gov. Jared Polis signed [HB25-1222: Preserving Access to Rural Pharmacies](#) into law. This bill specifies that a prescription drug outlet that is a rural independent pharmacy does not need to be under the direct charge of a pharmacist if the initial interpretation and final evaluation of the prescription is done by a Colorado licensed pharmacist in person or remotely. The bill also requires pharmacy benefit managers to reimburse independent rural pharmacies no less than the national average drug acquisition cost and a dispensing fee and establishes additional notification requirements for pharmacy benefit managers when subjecting a rural independent pharmacy to a recoupment of funds or a penalty of more than one thousand dollars as the result of an audit.

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