

Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development

DIVISION OF CORPORATIONS, BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSING

> P.O. Box 110806 Juneau, Alaska 99811-0800 Main: 907.465.2550 Fax: 907.465.2974

November 2, 2018

Re: Pharmacist Intern & Pharmacy Technician License Clarification

Dear Licensees,

As we now have a pharmacy program in our state, there is growing confusion around the issuance of Pharmacist Intern and Pharmacy Technician licenses and what duties are acceptable when possessing both licenses simultaneously. The Board is actively addressing these concerns through the required regulatory steps under the Alaska Administrative Code. In the meantime, we offer the following guidance on our intent of these licenses.

Nothing in regulation mandates that a Pharmacy Technician license be returned or is considered expired upon receiving a Pharmacist Intern license. However, we find that possessing both licenses simultaneously can create confusion as to how to monitor these duties for properly reporting of Pharmacist Intern hours. Therefore, until regulations are promulgated through the regulatory process, we recommend that a Pharmacist Intern "return" a Pharmacy Technician license to the Board and continue to practice as a licensed Pharmacist Intern.

Similarly, nothing in regulation prohibits a Pharmacist Intern from performing Pharmacy Technician functions; the same is true for a Pharmacist license. Pharmacist Interns should be performing all functions, under the direct supervision of a licensed Pharmacist, in order to further their knowledge and skills in preparation to best serve the public in the future as a fully licensed Pharmacist.

Professionally,

Richard Holt, BS Pharm, PharmD, MBA Alaska Board of Pharmacy, Chair