



Testimony for House Bill 2082  
Allowing Pharmacists to Administer Drugs Pursuant to a Prescription Order  
House Health and Human Services Committee  
By Dared Price, Owner  
Graves Drug, Arkansas City and Winfield, Kansas  
February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019

Chairperson Landwehr and Members of the Committee:

I am Dared Price, Owner of the Graves Drug stores in Arkansas City and Winfield. As a pharmacist I am frequently confronted by situations in which a patient would like for me to assist them in taking a medication. Due to current Kansas law, in most situations, I am allowed to talk them through the process of administration for their particular medication and delivery method, but I cannot physically help them administer that medication.

House bill 2082 would allow me to administer medications when a patient needs and wants my assistance. The medication would have to be prescribed by a licensed Kansas prescriber, would have to be a medication I am comfortable administering to the patient, and would have to be a medication the patient asked to be administered. The bill also allows the prescriber to identify that they do not want a pharmacist to administer the medication if for some reason it would make the prescriber uncomfortable.

The medications that we would be allowed to administer under HB2082 are medications that, currently, would be going home with the patient for self-administration. I believe that allowing pharmacists to administer these types of medications will provide patients that feel unsure about the process of administration with a reasonable alternative to home administration. It could be that the patient just needs to go through a walkthrough and have a medication administered once and then they are comfortable with self-administration. It could also be that there is a patient that needs weekly or monthly injections that finds coming to the pharmacy comforting and preferable to self-administration or administration by a friend or family member at home. In either circumstance, I would like the ability to support my patients and provide them a safe comfortable atmosphere in which to receive their medications.

One example of a situation I have myself that this bill would help address is a situation we were encountering with patients from a mental health clinic. The mental health clinic patients were having difficulty taking oral medications so they wanted to switch their patients to injectable to aid in compliance. We found there were many issues with either self-injecting or picking the medication up at the pharmacy and taking back to the physician office for administration. We worked with the clinic to come up with the solution of a collaborative practice agreement to administer these medications to patients at the pharmacy at time of pickup. Since this time the issue of patient safety and compliance has not been an issue. There are many other cases such as this that could be solved if pharmacists were able to help patients administer medications. I would not be here today, asking for this bill to be considered, if not for the fact that pharmacists are specially trained in medications and their delivery methods. In 40 other states pharmacists can administer medications beyond immunizations, including all our common border states and Iowa. Allowing pharmacists to administer medications will increase medication adherence, thereby supporting better health outcomes in both rural and urban areas of the state.



Often in my conversations about HB2082 I am asked “what would you do if someone had a reaction”? My response is that we are well trained in CPR and assessing side effects and adverse reactions. For those of us that provide immunizations in our pharmacies, we are already required to be CPR certified and, although not required in law, have epinephrine on hand if needed. In addition, someone having an adverse reaction at the pharmacy, with trained personnel available, versus someone having an adverse reaction at home, possibly alone, is a much better scenario for the patient.

Pharmacists are well situated to help people with their medications. After all, it is what we are trained to do. We can provide a safe environment with well trained professionals to assist those patients that need and want our assistance in taking their medications.

I would like to thank you for your time and consideration today. I would ask that when appropriate the Committee recommend HB2082 favorable for passage