



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2011 Wisconsin Act 159**  
[2011 Senate Bill 317]

**Electronic Prescriptions for  
Schedule II Controlled Substances**

A Schedule II controlled substance is a substance that has a high potential for abuse; has a currently accepted medical use in treatment in the United States, or a currently accepted medical use with severe restrictions; and is a substance whose abuse may lead to severe psychological or physical dependence.

Prior to Act 159, except when dispensed directly by a practitioner, other than a pharmacy, to an ultimate user, no controlled substance included in Schedule II could be dispensed without the written prescription of a practitioner. However, in emergency situations, as defined by rule of the Pharmacy Examining Board, Schedule II drugs could be dispensed upon oral or electronic prescription of a practitioner, reduced promptly to writing, and filed by the pharmacy.

**2011 Wisconsin Act 159** provides that, except when dispensed directly by a practitioner, other than a pharmacy, to an ultimate user, a Schedule II controlled substance may be dispensed by a pharmacy by either a written hard copy or electronic prescription of a practitioner.

Act 159 also provides that when a Schedule II controlled substance is dispensed upon an oral prescription in an emergency, the prescription must be reduced promptly to a written hard copy or electronic record.

**Effective date:** April 12, 2012.

**Prepared by:** Laura Rose, Deputy Director

April 10, 2012

LR:jb:jal

---

This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature's Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.