



Illinois Psychiatric Society
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Chicago, Illinois 60611
312/224-2601

A District Branch of the
American Psychiatric Association

The Honorable Patrick Quinn
Governor of Illinois
207 Statehouse
Springfield, IL 62706

June 5, 2009

Dear Governor Quinn:

I am writing on behalf of the Illinois Psychiatric Society (IPS), a state-wide organization of over 1100 psychiatrists. We would appreciate it if you would sign HB 488 into law. HB 488 would bring Illinois law governing schedule II controlled substances (including medications for pain and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder) into better accord with federal law in two important ways:

- 1.) HB 488 will allow physicians to prescribe up to a 90-day supply of Schedule II controlled substances during a single patient visit, through the use of up to three separate prescriptions.
- 2.) HB 488 will extend the time limit for filling Schedule II prescriptions from 7 days to 90 days.

The American Medical Association, the American Psychiatric Association, and other specialty societies have long urged the DEA to take action on this issue for the sake of chronically ill patients. Prescriptions which will be fillable for 90 days, rather than expiring after 7 days, and prescriptions which provide for three months' medication supply, will drastically reduce the work of physicians' offices and free up valuable practitioner-patient time. Also, "stable" patients, such as those with attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder, do not have a medical need for monthly examinations. In such cases, the old requirement that patients make monthly visits to their physician was an unnecessary hardship on patients.

We urge you to vote in favor of this bill so that Illinois practice can be more in line with DEA regulations. If you have any questions, please contact our Executive Director, Meryl Sosa, at 312-224-2601 or msosa@ilpsych.org.

Sincerely,

Lisa Rone, M.D.
President, Illinois Psychiatric Society

Cc: John Potts, Illinois Strategies
Representative Sara Feigenholtz