113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 621

To amend the Controlled Substances Act to make any substance containing hydrocodone a schedule II drug.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 20, 2013

Mr. MANCHIN (for himself, Mr. KIRK, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. SCHUMER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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A BILL

To amend the Controlled Substances Act to make any substance containing hydrocodone a schedule II drug.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the ''Safe Prescribing Act of 2013''.

SEC. 2. HYDROCODONE AMENDMENT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Schedule III(d) in section 202 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812) is amended by—

(1) striking paragraphs (3) and (4); and

(2) redesignating paragraphs (5), (6), (7), and (8) as paragraphs (3), (4), (5), and (6), respectively.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by subsection (a) shall take effect on the date that is 6 months after the date of enactment of this Act.

SEC. 3. PHYSICAL SECURITY REQUIREMENTS.

Notwithstanding the amendments made by section 2, the Attorney General shall immediately, without regard to chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code, amend section 1301.72 of title 21, Code of Federal Regulations, relating to the physical security controls for non-practitioners, narcotic treatment programs and compounders for narcotic treatment programs, and storage areas for controlled substances, to allow, for the 3-year period beginning on the date of enactment of this Act, manufacturers and distributors to store hydrocodone combination products in accordance with the physical security requirements for schedule III, IV, and V controlled substances.

SEC. 4. GAO REPORT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 18 months after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to Congress a report on the reclassification of hydrocodone products under this Act.

(b) CONTENTS.—The report required under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) an assessment of the degree to which the reclassification of hydrocodone products under this Act impacts the ability of patients with legitimate medical needs, particularly those in rural areas and nursing home facilities, to access adequate pain management; and

(2) recommendations necessary to address issues, if any, relating to patient access to adequate pain management.

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