

Pharmacy Laws

The present patchwork of State pharmacy laws, regulations, and codes of ethics obviously reflects attempts to cope with a variety of pharmacy problems on a piecemeal basis. Whether they are aimed at the protection of the public health or the prevention of competition--fair or unfair--is not clear in all cases.

Many of these rules seem to have derived from periods of manpower excesses. They block efforts to cope with the present shortages of skilled manpower, the need for mobility to meet rapidly changing health needs, and the probable development of new careers in pharmacy.

The Task Force recommends that the Health Services and Mental Health Administration should support studies of State laws, regulations, and codes, with priority given to the establishment of model State licensing laws, uniform reciprocity standards, and provisions for the utilization of pharmacy aides.