

HR 6 – Federal Opioid Overdose Prevention Law Summary

National Pharmacy Association representatives meet at the White House to witness the signing by President Trump of the federal law that will start the process of reigning in the opioid overdose crisis. Pharmacy had its hand in this legislation from the beginning to make sure the legislation was not overly burdensome on pharmacists and pharmacies.

Main Points:

- **H.R. 6, the *Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment for Patients and Communities Act*, was signed by the president on October 24, 2018;**
- Requires the development and distribution of materials to train pharmacists on circumstances when they are allowed under law to decline to fill a prescription for a controlled substance;
- Includes a provision that would require e-prescribing for Schedule II through V controlled substances under Medicare Part D, **starting in 2021**;
- Exempts skilled nursing facility patients;
- Provides language to ensure e-prescribing would not infringe on a patient's right to go to a pharmacy of their choice.