from the provisions of subsection 5 subdivision e of subsection 1 as to the discontinued or lapsed permit. The previsions of subsection 5 shall not apply to

- b. A hospital pharmacies pharmacy furnishing service only to patients in that hospital.
- c. The applicant for a permit to operate a pharmacy which is a hospital, if the pharmacy for which the hospital seeks a permit to operate is a retail pharmacy that is the sole provider of pharmacy services in the community and is a retail pharmacy that was in existence before the hospital took over operations. A hospital operating a pharmacy under this subdivision may operate the pharmacy at any location in the community.

## SECTION 2. LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL STUDY - REGULATION AND LICENSING OF PHARMACISTS.

- 1. The legislative council shall consider studying, during the 2007-08 interim, the regulation and licensing of pharmacists in this state. The study must include an examination of:
  - The state board of pharmacy, the board's size, the manner of board membership appointment, and whether the board is representative of commercial and noncommercial pharmacists;
  - b. The state's demographics and the impact changing demographics in rural areas will have on the ability of small, locally owned pharmacies to remain economically viable and on the ability of rural residents to access low-cost pharmaceuticals and pharmacy and pharmacists' services;
  - c. The pharmacy ownership restrictions, the relevance of those restrictions in terms of marketplace competition, and the impact of those restrictions on the price and availability of pharmaceuticals and on pharmacy and pharmacists' services; and
  - d. The statutory interplay between the state board of pharmacy and the North Dakota pharmaceutical association and whether the regulatory function of the board conflicts with the advocacy function of the association.
- 2. The legislative council shall report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the sixty-first legislative assembly.