



General Assembly

February Session, 2024

Raised Bill No. 5249

LCO No. 677



Referred to Committee on INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE

Introduced by:
(INS)

**AN ACT CONCERNING PERSONAL OPIOID DRUG DEACTIVATION
AND DISPOSAL SYSTEMS AND THE OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2024*) (a) As used in this section:
- 2 (1) "Dispense" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-240
3 of the general statutes;
- 4 (2) "Opioid drug" has the same meaning as provided in section 20-
5 14o of the general statutes;
- 6 (3) "Personal opioid drug deactivation and disposal system" means a
7 product that is designed for personal use and enables a patient to
8 permanently deactivate and destroy an opioid drug;
- 9 (4) "Pharmacist" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-240
10 of the general statutes; and
- 11 (5) "Pharmacy" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-240
12 of the general statutes.

13 (b) (1) Except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, each
14 pharmacist who dispenses an opioid drug to a patient in this state shall
15 provide to such patient, at the time such pharmacist dispenses such
16 drug to such patient, a personal opioid drug deactivation and disposal
17 system. No pharmacy or pharmacist shall charge any fee to, or impose
18 any cost on, any patient for a personal opioid drug deactivation and
19 disposal system that a pharmacist provides to a patient pursuant to this
20 subdivision.

21 (2) Any pharmacy or pharmacist may seek reimbursement from the
22 Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee established pursuant to section
23 17a-674d of the general statutes for documented expenses incurred by
24 such pharmacy or pharmacist in providing personal opioid drug
25 deactivation and disposal systems to patients pursuant to subdivision
26 (1) of this subsection. No such pharmacy or pharmacist shall be required
27 to bear any documented expense for providing personal opioid drug
28 deactivation and disposal systems to patients pursuant to subdivision
29 (1) of this subsection and, if there are insufficient funds in the Opioid
30 Settlement Fund established pursuant to section 17a-674c of the general
31 statutes, as amended by this act, to cover such documented expenses or
32 such funds are otherwise unavailable, no pharmacist shall be required
33 to provide a personal opioid drug deactivation and disposal system
34 pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection.

35 (c) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may adopt
36 regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the
37 general statutes, to implement the provisions of this section.

38 Sec. 2. Subsection (f) of section 17a-674c of the 2024 supplement to the
39 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
40 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2024*):

41 (f) Moneys in the fund shall be spent only for the following substance
42 use disorder abatement purposes, in accordance with the controlling
43 judgment, consent decree or settlement, as confirmed by the Attorney
44 General's review of such judgment, consent decree or settlement and

45 upon the approval of the committee and the Secretary of the Office of
46 Policy and Management:

47 (1) State-wide, regional or community substance use disorder needs
48 assessments to identify structural gaps and needs to inform
49 expenditures from the fund;

50 (2) Infrastructure required for evidence-based substance use disorder
51 prevention, treatment, recovery or harm reduction programs, services
52 and supports;

53 (3) Programs, services, supports and resources for evidence-based
54 substance use disorder prevention, treatment, recovery or harm
55 reduction;

56 (4) Evidence-informed substance use disorder prevention, treatment,
57 recovery or harm reduction pilot programs or demonstration studies
58 that are not evidence-based, but are approved by the committee as an
59 appropriate use of moneys for a limited period of time as specified by
60 the committee, provided the committee shall assess whether the
61 evidence supports funding such programs or studies or whether it
62 provides a basis for funding such programs or studies with an
63 expectation of creating an evidence base for such programs and studies;

64 (5) Evaluation of effectiveness and outcomes reporting for substance
65 use disorder abatement infrastructure, programs, services, supports and
66 resources for which moneys from the fund have been disbursed,
67 including, but not limited to, impact on access to harm reduction
68 services or treatment for substance use disorders or reduction in drug-
69 related mortality;

70 (6) One or more publicly available data interfaces managed by the
71 commissioner to aggregate, track and report data on (A) substance use
72 disorders, overdoses and drug-related harms, (B) spending
73 recommendations, plans and reports, and (C) outcomes of programs,
74 services, supports and resources for which moneys from the fund were
75 disbursed;

76 (7) Research on opioid abatement, including, but not limited to,
77 development of evidence-based treatment, barriers to treatment,
78 nonopioid treatment of chronic pain and harm reduction, supply-side
79 enforcement;

80 (8) Documented expenses incurred in administering and staffing the
81 fund and the committee, and expenses, including, but not limited to,
82 legal fees, incurred by the state or any municipality in securing
83 settlement proceeds, deposited in the fund as permitted by the
84 controlling judgment, consent decree or settlement;

85 (9) Documented expenses associated with managing, investing and
86 disbursing moneys in the fund;

87 (10) Documented expenses, including legal fees, incurred by the state
88 or any municipality in securing settlement proceeds deposited in the
89 fund to the extent such expenses are not otherwise reimbursed pursuant
90 to a fee agreement provided for by the controlling judgment, consent
91 decree or settlement; [and]

92 (11) Provision of funds to municipal police departments for the
93 purpose of equipping police officers with opioid antagonists, with
94 priority given to departments that do not currently have a supply of
95 opioid antagonists; and

96 (12) Documented expenses incurred by pharmacies and pharmacists
97 in providing personal opioid drug deactivation and disposal systems to
98 patients pursuant to section 1 of this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2024	New section
Sec. 2	October 1, 2024	17a-674c(f)

Statement of Purpose:

To require pharmacies and pharmacists to provide personal opioid drug deactivation and disposal systems to patients, and dedicate moneys

deposited in the Opioid Settlement Fund to reimburse pharmacies and pharmacists for expenses incurred in providing such systems to patients.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]