



General Assembly

January Session, 2011

Raised Bill No. 1182

LCO No. 4642

04642_____JUD

Referred to Committee on Judiciary

Introduced by:
(JUD)

AN ACT CONCERNING INMATE MEDICATIONS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2011) (a) The Department of
2 Correction shall ensure that all medications prescribed by physicians
3 to treat chronic conditions prior to incarceration for persons in its
4 custody are continued during admittance to a correctional facility,
5 while placed in such facility and during transfers to other facilities.

6 (b) Such medications shall continue to be administered to the
7 incarcerated person for a minimum of thirty days from the date such
8 person is committed to the custody of the department. The facility
9 receiving such person shall resume appropriate and commensurate
10 management of the chronic condition including, but not limited to, the
11 use of appropriate therapeutic treatments and medications or their
12 generic substitutes in accordance with state law and administrative
13 directives issued by the commissioner not later than March 1, 2012.

14 (c) The Commissioner of Correction, in consultation with the
15 Commissioner of Public Health, shall, not later than March 1, 2012,
16 establish a system to ensure that all necessary medications are given to

17 incarcerated persons in a timely manner while in the custody of the
18 department. Such system shall include, but not be limited to, the
19 following:

20 (1) A screening staff for each facility, including any health care
21 professional employed by such facility, who shall be trained to
22 determine the medications for which timely continuation is an urgent
23 matter;

24 (2) A process for determining which medications shall be deemed
25 necessary;

26 (3) A process for contacting the prescribing physician;

27 (4) A process for validating the prescription;

28 (5) A process for checking that all medications brought into a facility
29 are labeled to ensure that the container contains the correct medication;

30 (6) A process for providing a necessary medication to an
31 incarcerated person who has been committed to the custody of the
32 department without a supply of such medication;

33 (7) A process for notifying in advance a facility to which an
34 incarcerated person has been transferred that such person has been
35 prescribed a necessary medication and the continuation of such
36 medication is an urgent matter; and

37 (8) A process for maintaining a supply of the most common
38 necessary medications at each facility or having a physician or other
39 health care professional licensed to prescribe medications available to
40 prescribe such medications and with the ability to fill such
41 prescriptions.

42 (d) For the purposes of this section, a "necessary medication" means
43 any medication that, if not taken or administered, may cause death,
44 serious illness or other harmful effects.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2011</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To ensure that all medications prescribed for persons for treatment of chronic conditions are continued when such persons are committed to the custody of the Department of Correction.

[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.]