



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 42

January Session, 2013

Substitute House Bill No. 6439

House of Representatives, March 18, 2013

The Committee on Environment reported through REP. GENTILE of the 104th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISPOSAL AND COLLECTION OF UNUSED MEDICATION.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2013*) (a) As used in this
2 section:

3 (1) "Health care institution" means any public or private institution
4 or agency licensed or certified by the state to provide health care,
5 including a nursing home, residential health care facility, home health
6 care agency or hospice program or an institution, facility or agency
7 that provides services to persons with psychiatric disabilities or
8 intellectual disability, provided "health care institution" does not
9 include hospitals; and

10 (2) "Unused medication" means any unopened, expired or excess
11 medication dispensed for patient or resident care, including pills,
12 tablets, capsules and caplets.

13 (b) No health care institution and no employee, staff person,
 14 contractor, or other person acting under the direction or supervision of
 15 a health care institution, may discharge, dispose of, flush, pour or
 16 empty any unused medication into a public or private waste water
 17 collection system or septic system.

18 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2013*) The Department of Energy
 19 and Environmental Protection, in consultation with the Department of
 20 Consumer Protection, shall, within available appropriations, organize
 21 a public awareness campaign to educate the public concerning the
 22 dangers of unsafe disposal of pharmaceuticals and of the availability of
 23 retail pharmaceutical collection programs.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2013</i>	New section

ENV *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: See Below

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires that the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), in consultation with the Department of Consumer Protection organize a public awareness campaign regarding unused medications, within available appropriations.

As the bill does not define what is included in the public awareness campaign, it is anticipated that the departments would post information to their websites at no cost to the state.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 6439*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE DISPOSAL AND COLLECTION OF UNUSED MEDICATION.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill prohibits a health care institution and its employees, staff, contractors, or other people under its direction or supervision from discharging, disposing of, flushing, pouring, or emptying unused medication into a wastewater collection or septic system. Hospitals are exempt from the prohibition.

Under the bill, “unused medication” means unopened, expired, or excess medication dispensed for patient or resident care and includes pills, tablets, capsules, and caplets.

The bill requires the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection to organize a public awareness campaign about the (1) dangers of unsafe pharmaceutical disposal and (2) availability of retail pharmaceutical collection programs. The department must do so within available appropriations and in consultation with the Department of Consumer Protection.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2013

HEALTH CARE INSTITUTION

For purposes of the bill’s prohibition, a “health care institution” is a public or private institution or agency licensed or certified by the state to provide health care. It includes a nursing home; residential health care facility; home health care agency; hospice program; or an institution, facility, or agency providing services to people with psychiatric or intellectual disabilities. It excludes hospitals.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 27 Nay 0 (03/04/2013)