



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Raised Bill No. 6696

LCO No. 4255



Referred to Committee on GENERAL LAW

Introduced by:
(GL)

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

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2023*) (a) For the purposes of this
2 section:

3 (1) "Dispense" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-240
4 of the general statutes;

5 (2) "Opioid drug" has the same meaning as provided in section 20-
6 14o of the general statutes;

7 (3) "Personal opioid drug deactivation and disposal product" means
8 a product that is designed for personal use and enables a patient to
9 permanently deactivate and destroy an opioid drug;

10 (4) "Pharmacist" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-240
11 of the general statutes; and

12 (5) "Pharmacy" has the same meaning as provided in section 21a-240

13 of the general statutes.

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

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

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

39 Sec. 2. Subsection (e) of section 17a-674c of the general statutes is
40 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1,*
41 *2023*):

42 (e) Moneys in the fund shall be spent only for the following substance
43 use disorder abatement purposes, in accordance with the controlling
44 judgment, consent decree or settlement, as confirmed by the Attorney

45 General's review of such judgment, consent decree or settlement and
46 upon the approval of the committee and the Secretary of the Office of
47 Policy and Management:

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

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

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

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

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

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

76 disbursed;

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

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

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

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

93 (11) Documented expenses incurred by pharmacies and pharmacists
94 in providing personal opioid drug deactivation and disposal products
95 to patients pursuant to section 1 of this act.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	July 1, 2023	New section
Sec. 2	July 1, 2023	17a-674c(e)

Statement of Purpose:

To require pharmacists to provide personal opioid drug deactivation and disposal products to certain patients, and dedicate moneys deposited in the Opioid Settlement Fund to reimburse pharmacies and pharmacists for expenses incurred in providing such products 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.]