



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 6696**

January Session, 2023



**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-  
11 240 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

17 drug to such patient, a personal opioid drug deactivation and disposal  
18 product. No pharmacy or pharmacist shall charge any fee to, or  
19 impose any cost on, any patient for a personal opioid drug  
20 deactivation and disposal product that a pharmacist provides to a  
21 patient pursuant to this subdivision.

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

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

40 Sec. 2. Subsection (e) of section 17a-674c of the general statutes is  
41 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July*  
42 *1, 2023*):

43 (e) Moneys in the fund shall be spent only for the following  
44 substance use disorder abatement purposes, in accordance with the  
45 controlling judgment, consent decree or settlement, as confirmed by  
46 the Attorney General's review of such judgment, consent decree or  
47 settlement and upon the approval of the committee and the Secretary  
48 of the Office of Policy and Management:

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

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

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

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

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

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

79 (7) Research on opioid abatement, including, but not limited to,

80 development of evidence-based treatment, barriers to treatment,  
81 nonopioid treatment of chronic pain and harm reduction, supply-side  
82 enforcement;

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

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

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

95 (11) Documented expenses incurred by pharmacies and pharmacists  
96 in providing personal opioid drug deactivation and disposal products  
97 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 Legislative Commissioners:**

In Section 1(b)(2), "dispense" was changed to "provide" for internal consistency.

**GL**            *Joint Favorable Subst. -LCO*