

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Health and Welfare to which was referred Senate Bill
3 No. 104 entitled “An act relating to expedited partner therapy” respectfully
4 reports that it has considered the same and recommends that the bill be
5 amended by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof
6 the following:

7 Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 1095 is added to read:

8 § 1095. TREATMENT OF PARTNER OF PATIENT DIAGNOSED WITH
9 A SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE

10 (a) As used in this section:

11 (1) “Expedited partner treatment” means the practice of treating the
12 sexual partner or partners of a patient diagnosed with a sexually transmitted
13 disease for the sexually transmitted disease by providing a prescription or
14 medication to the patient for the sexual partner or partners without the
15 prescribing or dispensing health care professional examining the sexual partner
16 or partners.

17 (2) “Health care professional” means a physician licensed pursuant to
18 26 V.S.A. chapter 23 or 33, a physician’s assistant certified to prescribe and
19 dispense prescription drugs pursuant to 26 V.S.A. chapter 31, or a nurse
20 authorized to prescribe and dispense prescription drugs pursuant to 26 V.S.A.
21 chapter 28.

1 (b) A health care professional may provide expedited partner treatment to a
2 patient’s sexual partner or partners for the treatment of chlamydia or gonorrhea
3 and for any other sexually transmitted disease designated by the Commissioner
4 by rule.

5 (c) A health care professional who prescribes or dispenses prescription
6 drugs for a patient’s sexual partner or partners without an examination
7 pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall do so in accordance with
8 guidance published by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
9 and shall include with each prescription and medication dispensed a letter that:

10 (1) cautions the sexual partner not to take the medication if he or she is
11 allergic to the medication prescribed or dispensed; and

12 (2) recommends that the sexual partner visit a health care professional
13 for evaluation.

14 (d) The Commissioner may establish by rule additional treatment standards
15 for expedited partner treatment and authorize expedited partner treatment for
16 additional sexually transmitted diseases provided that expedited partner
17 treatment for those additional diseases conforms to the best practice
18 recommendations of the CDC.

1 Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 1095 is amended to read:

2 § 1095. TREATMENT OF PARTNER OF PATIENT DIAGNOSED WITH
3 A SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE

4 * * *

5 (b) A health care professional may provide expedited partner treatment to a
6 patient's sexual partner or partners for the treatment of ~~chlamydia or gonorrhea~~
7 ~~and for any other~~ a sexually transmitted disease designated by the
8 Commissioner by rule.

9 * * *

10 (d) The Commissioner ~~may~~ shall establish by rule additional treatment
11 standards for expedited partner treatment and authorize expedited partner
12 treatment for ~~additional~~ any sexually transmitted diseases provided that
13 expedited partner treatment for those ~~additional~~ diseases conforms to the best
14 practice recommendations of the CDC.

15 Sec. 3. REPEAL

16 26 V.S.A. § 1369 (treatment of partner of patient diagnosed with chlamydia
17 infection) is repealed.

18 Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATES

19 (a) This section and Secs. 1 (treatment of partner of patient with a sexually
20 transmitted disease) and 3 (repeal) of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2013.

1 (b) Sec. 2 of this act shall take effect on March 1, 2014, except that the
2 Commissioner of Health may commence rulemaking prior to that date in order
3 to ensure that rules are in place by that date.

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8 (Committee vote: _____)

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Senator [surname]

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FOR THE COMMITTEE