

No. 27. An act relating to repealing the sunset on provisions pertaining to patient choice at end of life.

(S.108)

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. REPEALS

(a) 2013 Acts and Resolves No. 39, Sec. 2 (repeal of 18 V.S.A. § 5283, immunity for prescription and documentation, on July 1, 2016) is repealed.

(b) 18 V.S.A. §§ 5289 (protection of patient choice at end of life) and 5290 (immunity for physicians) are repealed.

Sec. 2. 18 V.S.A. § 5293 is added to read:

§ 5293. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

(a) The Department of Health shall adopt rules pursuant to 3 V.S.A. chapter 25 to facilitate the collection of information regarding compliance with this chapter, including identifying patients who filled prescriptions written pursuant to this chapter. Except as otherwise required by law, information regarding compliance shall be confidential and shall be exempt from public inspection and copying under the Public Records Act.

(b) Beginning in 2018, the Department of Health shall generate and make available to the public a biennial statistical report of the information collected pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, as long as releasing the information complies with the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104-191.

Sec. 3. 18 V.S.A. § 4284(b)(2) is amended to read:

(2) The Department shall provide reports of data available to the Department through the VPMS only to the following persons:

* * *

(G) The Commissioner of Health or the Commissioner's designee in order to identify patients who filled prescriptions written pursuant to chapter 113 of this title.

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

Date Governor signed bill: May 20, 2015