

Vermont Legislative Joint Fiscal Office

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FISCAL BRIEF

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H.300

An act relating to the prescription, maintenance, and use of epinephrine auto-injectors

This bill proposes to enable an “authorized entity” to maintain a stock supply of epinephrine auto-injectors on its premises. The bill defines an authorized entity as a business or organization identified by the Department of Health as having an increased risk of the presence of allergens causing anaphylaxis or potentially having persons present with increased sensitivity to the presence of allergens causing anaphylaxis. It also anticipates that these authorized entities would have designated employees who have completed an anaphylaxis training program and who maintain the stock supply of epinephrine auto-injectors as well as other safe guards such as locked public access stations.

Liability

The bill provides immunity to health care providers, pharmacists, authorized entities, designated employees and the anaphylaxis training program from any civil or criminal liability arising from the administration of an epinephrine auto-injector, unless the individual’s or organization’s behavior constitute intentional misconduct.

Fiscal Impact

As the bill is written, there is **no measurable fiscal impact to the state budget** since the bill does not require businesses or organizations (including the State of Vermont) to have epinephrine auto-injectors on its premises. It is only an expense to a business or organization to the extent that it decides to become an authorized entity. Should the State of Vermont decide to become an authorized entity, the following is an estimate of what the cost to the state could be:

Number of buildings: 90 – 249

- The Department of Buildings and General Services (BGS) has jurisdiction over 249 buildings. Excluding corrections and the Vermont State Hospital (assuming some on-site medical capabilities) as well as storage buildings and facilities, the number of locations BGS might consider should they implement such a program is around 90 locations. This assumes one two-pack of epinephrine auto-injectors per building. Some locations such as 120 State Street (the Department of Motor Vehicles Montpelier location) have multiple floors, which could also be a consideration.

Epinephrine Auto-Injectors: \$303.93 – \$639.88

- The cost for epinephrine auto-injector range from \$303.93 to \$639.88 (for the epi-pen brand) for a pack of two generally lasting approximately two years. These prices do not take into consideration coupons or other discounts that may be available.

*The estimated cost to the State of Vermont if it were to implement such a program across its properties is **approximately \$27,400 - \$160,000 (every two years)**, depending on how many buildings (and floors) would be included and the cost of the epinephrine auto-injector chosen.*

- *These estimates do not include the any potential costs for training, administration costs and/or staff time associated with dispersing the pens to the buildings or the collection and disposal of expired pens.*