

No. 114. An act relating to establishing the Unused Prescription Drug Repository Program.

(S.164)

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

Sec. 1. UNUSED PRESCRIPTION DRUG REPOSITORY PROGRAM;

FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS; REPORT

(a) The Agency of Human Services, in consultation with the Board of Pharmacy and the Board of Medical Practice and after making reasonable efforts to consult with representatives from Vermont pharmacies, hospitals, long-term care facilities, and other health care facilities, shall evaluate the feasibility of implementing an unused prescription drug repository program to accept and dispense donated prescription drugs and supplies to Vermont residents who meet specified eligibility standards. In determining the feasibility of an unused prescription drug repository program in Vermont, the Agency of Human Services shall consider:

(1) the potential benefits of the program to Vermont consumers, the health care system, the environment, and the State;

(2) the costs of implementing and administering the program, including through a contractual arrangement with a third party;

(3) one or more funding sources to support the program;

(4) the criteria under which pharmacies, hospitals, long-term care facilities, and other health care facilities would accept and dispense donated prescription drugs and supplies under the program, including:

(A) eligibility criteria for participation by pharmacies, hospitals, long-term care facilities, and other health care facilities;

(B) standards and procedures for accepting, safely storing, and dispensing donated prescription drugs and supplies; and

(C) standards and procedures for inspecting donated prescription drugs and supplies to determine if the prescription drugs are in their original sealed and tamper-evident packaging and to ensure that the prescription drugs and supplies are not adulterated, misbranded, or otherwise unsafe for dispensing;

(5) eligibility criteria for individuals to receive donated prescription drugs and supplies dispensed by pharmacies, hospitals, long-term care facilities, and other health care facilities under the program;

(6) the fees that a pharmacy, hospital, long-term care facility, or other health care facility would be permitted to charge for accepting, distributing, or dispensing donated prescription drugs and supplies under the program;

(7) the types of prescription drugs and supplies that the program would accept; and

(8) an outreach and education plan to inform the public of the availability of the program, including information regarding:

(A) who may be eligible to receive donated prescription drugs and supplies under the program;

(B) how to demonstrate eligibility; and

(C) whether individuals may donate prescription drugs and supplies and, if so, how to donate them.

(b) On or before December 1, 2018, the Agency of Human Services shall provide to the House Committees on Health Care and on Human Services and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare its analysis and recommendations regarding the implementation of an unused prescription drug repository program in Vermont.

Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

This act shall take effect on passage.

Date Governor signed bill: May 1, 2018