

S.300

Introduced by Senators Williams and Heffernan

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Human services; opioid use disorder; urine drug screening; fentanyl

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require that a hospital screen for fentanyl as part of any urine drug screening conducted to assist in diagnosing the patient's condition.

An act relating to screening for fentanyl during a hospital-administered urine drug screening

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

Sec. 1. 18 V.S.A. § 4755 is added to read:

§ 4755. FENTANYL; URINE DRUG SCREENING

(a) If a patient is treated in a hospital licensed pursuant to chapter 43 of this title and the hospital conducts a urine drug screening to assist in diagnosing the patient's condition, the hospital shall include testing for fentanyl as part of the urine drug screening.

(b)(1) A hospital conducting a urine drug screening pursuant to this section and its employees shall not disclose the screening results for fentanyl to a law

1 enforcement officer, unless the screening result is sought pursuant to a valid  
2 warrant or subpoena.

3 (2) A hospital and its employees shall be immune from civil and  
4 criminal liability for disclosing the screening results to a law enforcement  
5 officer in good faith reliance on the provisions of subdivision (1) of this  
6 subsection.

7 (c) As used in this section, “urine drug screening” means a chemical  
8 analysis intended to test patients for the presence of multiple drugs, including  
9 cocaine, opioids, and phencyclidine.

10 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

11 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.