

Department of Planning and Budget
2026 General Assembly Session
State Fiscal Impact Statement

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ORIGINAL

Bill Number: SB421

Patron: Favola

Bill Title: Remote pharmacist verification and counseling in opioid treatment programs.

Bill Summary: Authorizes a pharmacist licensed in the Commonwealth to exercise verification, counseling, and supervision duties remotely when a pharmacy technician or other authorized personnel dispenses medication prescribed for the management of opioid use disorder at a federally certified opioid treatment program.

Budget Amendment Necessary: No

Items Impacted: n/a

Fiscal Summary: Minimal/absorbable fiscal impact.

Fiscal Analysis: This legislation requires the Board of Pharmacy (the Board) to promulgate regulations related to the ability of a licensed pharmacist to remotely verify and counsel a pharmacy technician or other authorized personnel during the dispensation of medication for opioid use disorder at a federally certified opioid treatment program. The Board's regulations must include requirements addressing the technological standards of equipment used for this purpose, training and competency, documentation and recordkeeping, patient privacy and safety, and the ability of a pharmacist to serve as pharmacist-in-charge at multiple pharmacies pursuant to the bill. It is expected that any cost or workload impacts associated with promulgating regulations will be minimal and absorbable within existing resources.

Other: n/a