



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

FISCAL NOTE

SENATE BILL NO. 978

PRINTERS NO. 1860

PRIME SPONSOR: Baker

COST / (SAVINGS)

FUND	FY 2017/18	FY 2018/19
General Fund	\$0	\$0

SUMMARY: Senate Bill 978, Printer's Number 1860 establishes the freestanding Hospice and Home Health Prescription Medication Disposal Act. This legislation is effective in 60 days.

ANALYSIS: This legislation authorizes home health and hospice agencies to properly dispose of unused medications following a patient's discharge or death, so long as permission is given by the patient or the patient's family member, caregiver or health care representative.

SB 978 requires a home health or hospice agency to:

- establish a written policy setting forth procedures for accepting and disposing of unused prescription medications using the guidelines set forth by the Food and Drug Administration and;
- at the time of admission:
 - furnish a copy of the written policy to each patient or the patient's health care representative; and
 - designate an employee representative to discuss the procedures and requirements for surrendering unused prescription medications with the patient or the patient's health care representative.

Disposal of unused medications must occur in the presence of a witness at the site where care is provided, and must either take place during the final in-home visit by a nurse or within five business days of the death or discharge of the patient, whichever occurs first.

A nurse who accepts and disposes of an unused prescription medication is required to document all of the following:

- the name and quantity of each medication surrendered;
- the name of the person authorizing the surrender and the relationship of the person to the patient;
- the date and method of disposal; and
- the name of the person witnessing the disposal.

Documentation is required to be maintained by a home health or hospice agency for a period of five years.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact related to allowing home health and hospice agencies to dispose of unused medications.

PREPARED BY: Ann Bertolino
House Appropriations Committee (R)

DATE: June 19, 2018

Estimates are calculated using the best information available. Actual costs and revenue impact incurred may vary from estimates.