

Department of Planning and Budget

2019 Fiscal Impact Statement

1. Bill Number: HB2559

House of Origin	☒ Introduced	☐ Substitute	☐ Engrossed
Second House	☐ In Committee	☐ Substitute	☐ Enrolled

2. Patron: Pillion

3. Committee: Health, Welfare and Institutions

4. Title: Electronic transmission of certain prescriptions; exceptions.

5. Summary: Provides certain exceptions, effective July 1, 2020, to the requirement that any prescription for a controlled substance that contains an opioid be issued as an electronic prescription. The bill requires the licensing health regulatory boards of a prescriber to grant such prescriber a waiver of the electronic prescription requirement for a period not to exceed one year due to demonstrated economic hardship, technological limitations that are not reasonably within the control of the prescriber, or other exceptional circumstances demonstrated by the prescriber. The bill provides that a dispenser is not required to determine whether one of the exceptions applies when he receives a non-electronic prescription for a controlled substances containing opioids. The bill requires the Boards of Medicine, Nursing, Dentistry, and Optometry to promulgate regulations to implement the prescriber waivers. Finally, the bill requires the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to convene a work group to identify successes and challenges of the electronic prescription requirement and offer possible recommendations for increasing the electronic prescribing of controlled substances and to report to the Chairmen of the House Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions and the Senate Committee on Education and Health by November 1, 2022.

6. Budget Amendment Necessary: No.

7. No Fiscal Impact.

8. Fiscal Implications: This bill would not have a fiscal impact on the Commonwealth. The provisions of the bill would require the Board of Pharmacy to amend regulations, however this will not impact the agency or its operations. It is expected that the Secretary of Health and Human Resources can meet the provisions of this bill within existing resources.

9. Specific Agency or Political Subdivisions Affected: Department of Health Professions.

10. Technical Amendment Necessary: No.

11. Other Comments: None.