
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 675 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY BROOKS, BROWNE, HUTCHINSON, STEFANO AND K. WARD,
MAY 28, 2019

REFERRED TO HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, MAY 28, 2019

AN ACT

1 Providing for certification of buprenorphine office-based
2 prescribers; limiting the use of buprenorphine; and imposing
3 powers and duties on the Department of Drug and Alcohol
4 Programs.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Short title.

8 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Buprenorphine
9 Medically Assisted Treatment Act.

10 Section 2. Definitions.

11 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
12 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
13 context clearly indicates otherwise:

14 "Buprenorphine." A material, compound, mixture of
15 preparation containing buprenorphine or its salts used as
16 medically assisted treatment for opioid addiction.

17 "Buprenorphine office-based prescriber." A person that is
18 assigned a waiver from the Drug Enforcement Administration,
19 including a special identification number, commonly referred to

1 as the "X" DEA number, and provides office-based prescribing of
2 buprenorphine.

3 "Department." The Department of Drug and Alcohol Programs of
4 the Commonwealth.

5 Section 3. Buprenorphine medically assisted treatment.

6 (a) Certification.--The department shall establish a program
7 for certification of buprenorphine office-based prescribers as
8 qualified by training and experience to prescribe buprenorphine.

9 (b) Fee.--A buprenorphine office-based prescriber shall pay
10 a fee to the department in order to receive certification under
11 subsection (a). The amount of the fee shall not exceed \$500
12 during the first year in which the fee may be imposed and
13 thereafter shall not exceed an amount sufficient to reimburse
14 the department for the administrative cost to administer and
15 enforce this act.

16 (c) Prohibition.--No buprenorphine office-based prescriber
17 shall prescribe buprenorphine to a patient unless all of the
18 following occur:

19 (1) The patient provides evidence demonstrating active
20 participation in an addiction treatment program licensed by
21 the department.

22 (2) The evidence of participation in the addiction
23 treatment program is documented in the patient's medical
24 record.

25 (3) The buprenorphine office-based prescriber is
26 certified by the department as provided under subsection (a).

27 (d) Violations.--

28 (1) The department shall report a violation of this act
29 to the appropriate licensure board.

30 (2) A person who violates this act and is licensed by a

1 licensure board under another act shall be subject to
2 discipline by the licensure board under the other act for the
3 violation, including license suspension or revocation or an
4 appropriate fine or other penalty.

5 Section 4. Effective date.

6 This act shall take effect in 60 days.