

HOUSE RESEARCH

Bill Summary

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Section

- 1 Ex parte order for isolation or quarantine.** Amends § 144.4195, subd. 1. Removes an August 1, 2009 sunset for a provision that allows peace officers to use force if a person flee or forcibly resists isolation or quarantine.
- 2 Temporary hold upon commissioner's directive.** Amends § 144.4195, subd. 2. Modifies a provision that allows peace officers to assist a public health official to isolate or quarantine a person subject to the commissioner's directive, by permitting peace officers to use force to isolate or quarantine a person subject to the commissioner's directive. (Removes the requirement that the officer work with a public health official).

Removes an August 1, 2009, sunset for this subdivision.
- 3 Court hearing.** Makes technical changes. Removes the requirement that a person be determined indigent to be represented by counsel designated by the court.
- 4 Judicial procedures and decisions.** Amends § 144.4195, subd. 5. Requires the Supreme Court to develop procedures for compensating language interpreters and medial experts who are necessary for defense preparations. Modifies permissive language that states a person who seeks appeal and does not meet indigency standards may reimburse the department of health for fees and costs of the appeal by requiring that such a person must reimburse the department.
- 5 Emergency vaccine administration; legend drug.** Amends § 144.4197. Adds to the situations in which the commissioner of health may authorize certain persons to administer vaccines or dispense drugs by including situations when a local board of health requests the commissioner's assistance in responding to a public health event.

Removes an August 1, 2009 sunset for this provision.

- 6 Mass dispensing under authority of commissioner of health.** Adds § 144.4198.
- Subd. 1. Definition.** Defines “closed point of dispensing (POD)”
- Subd. 2. Alternative and expedited mass dispensing.** Permits the commissioner of health to designate persons and entities to dispense drugs under certain emergency situations. Provides methods by which a drug may be dispensed, including via a household representative, the U.S. Postal Service, and a closed POD.
- Subd. 3. Liability protections for closed POD’s.** Provides certain civil liability protections for anyone who acts in good faith and under the direction of an approved closed POD plan during preparation for and setup, operation and demobilization of a closed POD. Specifies that this liability protection does not apply in a case of malfeasance or willful or wanton actions.
- Subd. 4. Continuing benefits.** Specifies that this section does not affect a person’s rights related to workers’ compensation or pension law, nor does it affect entitlement to benefits or compensation under state or federal law.
- 7 Commissioner requests for health volunteers.** Permits the commissioner of health to ask for Minnesota Responds Medical Reserve Corps volunteers if the commissioner determines the state is in need and specifies certain uses of the volunteers that the commissioner may request. Requires that a volunteer’s rights and benefits must not be affected by vacation leave, pay or other compensation provided by a volunteer’s employer during time of service.
- Makes technical changes.
- 8 Prescribing and filing.** Gives the commissioner of health prescribing authority for mass dispensing purposes under certain circumstances. Gives the commissioner discretion to modify state drug labeling requirements and medical screening criteria in situations where such modifications are necessary to ensure drugs reach the maximum number of persons in a timely fashion.
- Makes technical changes.
- 9 Purchase of drugs and other agents by commissioner of health.** Adds to the list of drugs that may be purchased, stored and distributed by the commissioner of health to treat and prevent communicable diseases.