

**Committee on Public Health
Bill Summary**

Bill No.	H2509
Title:	<i>An Act relative to the availability of prescription medication during an emergency</i>
Sponsor:	Representative Edward R. Philips
Committee:	Public Health
Hearing Date:	June 11, 2025
Similar Matters:	None
Prior History:	Refile of H2249 of 2023-2024; Referred to Committee on Public Health; Accompanied a study order.
Reporting Deadline:	August 10, 2025

Current Law:

- **M.G.L. Chapter 111** pertains to public health.

Summary:

This bill would add a new section to chapter 111 of the General Laws that would require the department of health (DPH) to develop a plan to ensure the continued availability of prescription medication during a state of emergency declared by the Governor.

The bill would add a new section, section 245, to M.G.L. Chapter 111 that would require the DPH, in consultation with the board of registration in pharmacy, the division of insurance, the office of Medicaid and the Massachusetts emergency management agency, to develop and publicize a statewide plan for ensuring the availability of prescription medications during a state of emergency declared by the governor.

The bill requires that the plan include, at a minimum, the following elements:

- Early refills on prescriptions;
- Ensure that vehicles delivering medications have the same road access as other emergency vehicles;
- Coordinate among stakeholders in the pharmaceutical industry;
- Avoid duplicative or redundant supply chain infrastructure; and
- Creation of a safety net system which citizens can utilize for assistance in locating prescription medications in the event that no medications are locally available.

The bill requires the commissioner of public health to implement the statewide plan for the duration of the state of emergency.