

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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**Subject:** Automated Drug Distribution Systems

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### Overview

This bill allows automated drug distribution systems to be used in certain board and care homes and modifies procedures for certifying the accuracy of the filling of an automated drug distribution system. The bill also modifies the procedure used to determine the quantity of over-the-counter drugs that can be dispensed under MA, to reflect the use of automated drug distribution systems.

#### Section

- 1**        **Definitions.** Amends § 151.58, subd. 2. Includes a board and care home that provides centralized storage of medications in the definition of “health care facility,” for purposes of the use of automated drug distribution systems.
- 2**        **Operation of automated drug distribution systems.** Amends § 151.58, subd. 5. Allows a pharmacist employed by and working at a pharmacy under the same ownership of the pharmacy managing the automated drug distribution system to certify the accuracy of the filling of any cassettes, canisters, or containers of drugs that will be loaded into the automated drug distribution system. (Under current law, this can be done only by a pharmacist employed by and working at the managing pharmacy.)
- 3**        **Drugs.** Amends § 256B.0625, subd. 13. Modifies the procedure used to calculate the number of dosage units of an over-the-counter medication that can be dispensed under MA. Current law requires this quantity to be the lowest of the number of dosage units in the manufacturer’s original package or the number dosage units required to complete the patient’s course of therapy. This section adds to this list the number of dosage units dispensed from a system using retrospective billing, including an automated drug dispensing system.