



**AN ACT CONCERNING PREVENTING DEATHS FROM DRUG OVERDOSE.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2002*) For purposes of this  
2 section and section 3 of this act:

3 (1) "Opioid antagonist" means naloxone hydrochloride or any other  
4 similarly acting and equally safe drug approved by the federal Food  
5 and Drug Administration for the treatment of drug overdose;

6 (2) "Department" means the Department of Public Health; and

7 (3) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health.

8 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2002*) The Commissioner of Public  
9 Health shall publish an annual report on drug overdose trends state-  
10 wide that reviews state death rates from available data to ascertain  
11 changes in the causes or rates of fatal and nonfatal drug overdose for  
12 the preceding period of not less than five years. The report shall also  
13 provide information on interventions that would be effective in  
14 reducing the rate of fatal or nonfatal drug overdose. The report shall  
15 include: (1) Trends in drug overdose death rates; (2) trends in  
16 emergency room utilization related to drug overdoses and the cost  
17 impact of emergency room utilization; (3) trends in utilization of  
18 prehospital and emergency services and the cost impact of emergency

19 services utilization; (4) suggested improvements in data collection; and  
20 (5) a description of other interventions effective in reducing the rate of  
21 fatal or nonfatal drug overdoses. The commissioner shall submit such  
22 report, in accordance with section 11-4a of the general statutes, on or  
23 before July 1, 2003, and annually thereafter, to the Governor and the  
24 joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance  
25 of matters relating to public health.

26 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2002*) (a) As used in this section,  
27 "emergency medical technician" means (1) any class of emergency  
28 medical technician certified under regulations adopted pursuant to  
29 section 19a-179 of the general statutes, as amended, including, but not  
30 limited to, any emergency medical technician-intermediate, and (2)  
31 any paramedic licensed pursuant to section 20-206ll of the general  
32 statutes.

33 (b) Any emergency medical technician who has been trained, in  
34 accordance with national standards recognized by the Commissioner  
35 of Public Health, in the administration of opioid antagonist using  
36 automatic prefilled cartridge injectors or similar automatic injectable  
37 equipment and who functions in accordance with written protocols  
38 and the standing orders of a licensed physician serving as an  
39 emergency department director may administer opioid antagonist  
40 using such injectors or equipment. All emergency medical technicians  
41 shall receive such training. All licensed or certified ambulances shall be  
42 equipped with opioid antagonist in such injectors or equipment which  
43 may be administered in accordance with written protocols and  
44 standing orders of a licensed physician serving as an emergency  
45 department director.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2002</i>

**PH**      *Joint Favorable Subst.*