



General Assembly

January Session, 2015

Committee Bill No. 5782

LCO No. 5110



Referred to Committee on GENERAL LAW

Introduced by:
(GL)

AN ACT AUTHORIZING PHARMACISTS TO DISPENSE OR ADMINISTER OPIOID ANTAGONISTS.

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

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) A person who is licensed
2 as a pharmacist under chapter 400j of the general statutes and is
3 certified in accordance with subsection (b) of this section may dispense
4 or administer, in good faith, an opioid antagonist, as defined in section
5 17a-714a of the general statutes, as amended by this act. Upon
6 dispensing or administering an opioid antagonist pursuant to this
7 section, such pharmacist shall (1) provide appropriate training
8 regarding the administration of such opioid antagonist to the person to
9 whom the opioid antagonist is dispensed, and (2) maintain a written
10 record of such dispensing, administering and training.

11 (b) A pharmacist may only dispense or administer an opioid
12 antagonist pursuant to this section if the pharmacist has been trained
13 and certified to dispense and administer an opioid antagonist pursuant
14 to a program approved by the Commissioner of Consumer Protection.

15 (c) A pharmacist who dispenses or administers an opioid antagonist

16 in compliance with this section shall not be deemed to have violated
17 any standard of care for a pharmacist.

18 (d) The provisions of this section shall apply only to a pharmacist
19 who has been trained and certified to dispense and administer an
20 opioid antagonist pursuant to said subsection (b) of this section. No
21 pharmacist may delegate or direct any other person to dispense or
22 administer an opioid antagonist unless such person is a pharmacist
23 who has been trained and certified pursuant to said subsection.

24 (e) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection may adopt
25 regulations, in accordance with chapter 54 of the general statutes, to
26 implement the provisions of this section.

27 Sec. 2. Section 17a-714a of the general statutes is repealed and the
28 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

29 (a) For purposes of this section, "opioid antagonist" means naloxone
30 hydrochloride or any other similarly acting and equally safe drug
31 approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration for the
32 treatment of drug overdose.

33 (b) A licensed health care professional who is permitted by law to
34 prescribe, dispense or administer an opioid antagonist may [, if acting
35 with reasonable care,] prescribe, dispense or administer an opioid
36 antagonist to any individual to treat or prevent a drug overdose
37 without being liable for damages in a civil action or subject to criminal
38 prosecution for prescribing, dispensing or administering such opioid
39 antagonist or for any subsequent use of such opioid antagonist. A
40 licensed health care professional who prescribes, dispenses or
41 administers an opioid antagonist in accordance with the provisions of
42 this subsection shall not be deemed to have violated the standard of
43 care for such licensed health care professional.

44 (c) Any person, who in good faith believes that another person is
45 experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose may, if acting with
46 reasonable care, administer an opioid antagonist to such other person.

47 Any person, other than a licensed health care professional acting in the
48 ordinary course of such person's employment, who administers an
49 opioid antagonist in accordance with this subsection shall not be liable
50 for damages in a civil action or subject to criminal prosecution with
51 respect to the administration of such opioid antagonist.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>from passage</i>	17a-714a

GL

Joint Favorable C/R

PH