



General Assembly

February Session, 2016

Governor's Bill No. 5053

LCO No. 595



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:

REP. SHARKEY, 88th Dist.

REP. ARESIMOWICZ, 30th Dist.

SEN. LOONEY, 11th Dist.

SEN. DUFF, 25th Dist.

AN ACT INCREASING ACCESS TO OVERDOSE REVERSAL DRUGS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 17a-714a of the 2016 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective from passage*):

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

8 (b) A licensed health care professional who is permitted by law to
9 prescribe an opioid antagonist may prescribe, dispense or administer
10 an opioid antagonist to any individual to treat or prevent a drug
11 overdose without being liable for damages in a civil action or subject to
12 criminal prosecution for prescribing, dispensing or administering such

13 opioid antagonist or for any subsequent use of such opioid antagonist.
14 A licensed health care professional who prescribes, dispenses or
15 administers an opioid antagonist in accordance with the provisions of
16 this subsection shall be deemed not to have violated the standard of
17 care for such licensed health care professional.

18 (c) Any person, who in good faith believes that another person is
19 experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose may, if acting with
20 reasonable care, administer an opioid antagonist to such other person.
21 Any person, other than a licensed health care professional acting in the
22 ordinary course of such person's employment, who administers an
23 opioid antagonist in accordance with this subsection shall not be liable
24 for damages in a civil action or subject to criminal prosecution with
25 respect to the administration of such opioid antagonist.

26 (d) Not later than January 1, 2017, each municipality shall amend its
27 local emergency medical services plan, as described in section 19a-
28 181b, to ensure that the municipality's primary emergency medical
29 services provider is equipped with an opioid antagonist and its
30 personnel has received training, approved by the Commissioner of
31 Public Health, in the administration of opioid antagonists.

32 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2017*) No individual health
33 insurance policy providing coverage of the type specified in
34 subdivisions (1), (2), (4), (11), (12) and (16) of section 38a-469 of the
35 general statutes delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or
36 continued in this state that provides coverage for prescription drugs
37 and includes on its formulary naloxone hydrochloride or any other
38 similarly acting and equally safe drug approved by the federal Food
39 and Drug Administration for the treatment of drug overdose shall
40 require prior authorization for such drug.

41 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2017*) No group health insurance
42 policy providing coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2),
43 (4), (11), (12) and (16) of section 38a-469 of the general statutes

44 delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this
45 state that provides coverage for prescription drugs and includes on its
46 formulary naloxone hydrochloride or any other similarly acting and
47 equally safe drug approved by the federal Food and Drug
48 Administration for the treatment of drug overdose shall require prior
49 authorization for such drug.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	17a-714a
Sec. 2	<i>January 1, 2017</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2017</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]