



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 5053

February Session, 2016

* _____HB05053PD_____032816_____*

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2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof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 [] or dispense [or
10 administer] an opioid antagonist to any individual to treat or prevent a
11 drug overdose without being liable for damages in a civil action or
12 subject to criminal prosecution for prescribing [] or dispensing [or
13 administering] such opioid antagonist or for any subsequent use of
14 such opioid antagonist. A licensed health care professional who
15 prescribes [] or dispenses [or administers] an opioid antagonist in
16 accordance with the provisions of this subsection shall be deemed not
17 to have violated the standard of care for such licensed health care
18 professional.

19 (c) A licensed health care professional may administer an opioid
20 antagonist to any person to treat or prevent an opioid-related drug
21 overdose. Such licensed health care professional who administers an
22 opioid antagonist in accordance with the provisions of this subsection
23 shall not be liable for damages in a civil action or subject to criminal
24 prosecution for administration of such opioid antagonist and shall not
25 be deemed to have violated the standard of care for such licensed
26 health care professional.

27 [(c)] (d) Any person, who in good faith believes that another person
28 is experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose may, if acting with
29 reasonable care, administer an opioid antagonist to such other person.
30 Any person, other than a licensed health care professional acting in the
31 ordinary course of such person's employment, who administers an
32 opioid antagonist in accordance with this subsection shall not be liable
33 for damages in a civil action or subject to criminal prosecution with
34 respect to the administration of such opioid antagonist.

35 (e) Not later than January 1, 2017, each municipality shall amend its
36 local emergency medical services plan, as described in section 19a-
37 181b, to ensure that the municipality's primary emergency medical
38 services provider is equipped with an opioid antagonist and its
39 personnel has received training, approved by the Commissioner of
40 Public Health, in the administration of opioid antagonists.

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

50 Sec. 3. (NEW) (Effective January 1, 2017) No group health insurance

51 policy providing coverage of the type specified in subdivisions (1), (2),
52 (4), (11), (12) and (16) of section 38a-469 of the general statutes
53 delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this
54 state that provides coverage for prescription drugs and includes on its
55 formulary naloxone hydrochloride or any other similarly acting and
56 equally safe drug approved by the federal Food and Drug
57 Administration for the treatment of drug overdose shall require prior
58 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

PH *Joint Favorable Subst.*

PD *Joint Favorable*