



General Assembly

**Substitute Bill No. 5053**

February Session, 2016

\* \_\_\_\_\_HB05053JUD\_\_\_\_040616\_\_\_\_\_\*

**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2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof  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*

**JUD**     *Joint Favorable*