

Testimony of Michelle Seagull Commissioner of Consumer Protection

Public Health Committee Public Hearing, March 25, 2019

S.B. 1057 “AN ACT CONCERNING OPIOID USE DISORDER”

Senator Abrahms, Senator Somers, Representative Steinberg, Representative Petit and Honorable Members of the Public Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to offer testimony about S.B. 1057, An Act Concerning Opioid Use Disorder.

This well intentioned proposed legislation would make a variety of statutory changes to address the opioid use disorder epidemic including providing more access to, and education and training for the use of opioid antagonists.

While DCP is supportive of the overall goals in this bill, we suggest amending section 1 to require that institutions of higher education designate a medical professional to oversee the purchase, storage and distribution of opioid antagonists on their campuses, and ensure that instructions for proper administering and storage of opioid antagonists be provided. We would also request that the changes in Sections 6, 7, and 8 where “dispensed” is deleted and replaced with “delivered” be removed from the bill. Those changes are unnecessary and inconsistent with the rest of our statutes.

We are happy to further discuss this bill with the proponents. Thank you again for the opportunity to provide input about Senate Bill 1057. Please contact our Legislative Director, Leslie O'Brien, if you have any questions.