
OLR Bill Analysis

SB 1011

AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF OPIOID ANTAGONISTS AND EPINEPHRINE CARTRIDGE INJECTORS BY POLICE OFFICERS.

SUMMARY

This bill requires law enforcement units to (1) require their police officers to be trained in using opioid antagonists (e.g., Narcan) and epinephrine cartridge injectors (e.g., Epi-Pens) and (2) acquire and maintain a supply of these medications for use by their police officers when responding to a medical emergency.

A police officer who completes the training must be permitted to carry opioid antagonists and epinephrine cartridge injectors and administer them to an individual the officer believes in good faith is experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose or anaphylaxis, respectively.

The bill also grants immunity from civil and criminal liability to the state, municipalities, and their trained police officers who provide or administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a person the officer believes in good faith is experiencing anaphylaxis. Specifically, the bill grants such immunity for any personal injuries resulting from ordinary negligence during the provision or administration of the medication. The immunity does not extend to acts or omissions that constitute gross, willful, or wanton negligence and applies only if the police officer meets the bill's training requirements.

Existing law already grants civil and criminal immunity to any person, acting with reasonable care, who administers an opioid antagonist to a person he or she believes, in good faith, is experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose (CGS § 17a-714a).

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/18/2021)