

Public Safety and Security Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

Bill No.: SB-1011

AN ACT CONCERNING THE USE OF OPIOID ANTAGONISTS AND

Title: EPINEPHRINE CARTRIDGE INJECTORS BY POLICE OFFICERS.

Vote Date: 3/18/2021

Vote Action: Joint Favorable

PH Date: 3/9/2021

File No.:

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SPONSORS OF BILL:

Public Safety and Security Committee

REASONS FOR BILL:

This bill will allow police officers to use opioid antagonists and epinephrine cartridge injectors. Connecticut continues to have an opioid epidemic, and this would increase the availability, as police officers are often first on the scene of a drug overdose.

It will require a law enforcement unit to properly train their officers in the use of such injectors and antagonists and would give them a permit once trained to carry and administer such.

RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:

None Expressed

NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:

Mike Muszynski, State and Federal Relations Manager of CCM

Mr. Muszynski realizes the importance of Narcan, however he is concerned that this will become an unfunded mandate. If it is not an unfunded mandate, he states the committee should vote favorably on this bill. As these first responders need to be properly trained, the training needs to be done in an effective cost effect method for towns and cities.

Maebel Ailis Haynes, Student, E.O. Smith High School

Ms. Haynes writes in support of this bill. Roughly 50 million people suffer from allergies. Many but not all can result in anaphylaxis, which can lead to death. Training officers to use an epinephrine injector could save lives.

Police officers being able to have opioid antagonists will save countless lives. Drugs are becoming more dangerous and deadly. We need to remember that addiction is a disease and not a choice. We should help all the people that we can.

NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:

None Expressed

Reported by: Bonnie Gray, Asst. Clerk

Date: 3/30/2021