

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
PUBLIC ACT SUMMARY



PA 21-108—SB 1011

*Public Safety and Security Committee
Appropriations Committee*

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

SUMMARY: This act requires law enforcement units to (1) require that their police officers be trained in using opioid antagonists (e.g., Narcan) 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 administer the medication to an individual whom the officer believes in good faith is experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose.

The act also requires the Police Officer Standards and Training Council (POST), in consultation with the departments of Emergency Services and Public Protection and Public Health, to convene a working group to study the feasibility of requiring police officers to carry epinephrine cartridge injectors (e.g., Epi-Pens) and administer them to an individual whom the officer believes in good faith is experiencing anaphylaxis.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

POST WORKING GROUP

Under the act, the working group must at least:

1. determine whether the need for an epinephrine cartridge injector requirement exists by examining data on their use by police officers and other first responders and balancing the potential public benefit with the potential impact to officers and law enforcement units;
2. address issues associated with such a requirement, including implementation and police training costs; and
3. consult a medical expert about the injectors' shelf life and safe storage practices.

Under the act, if the working group determines the need for this requirement exists, it must make recommendations for legislation about implementation. POST must submit a report on the working group's findings and recommendations to the Public Safety and Security Committee by January 1, 2023. The working group must terminate when the report is submitted or January 1, 2023, whichever is later.