

PLEASE NOTE: Legislative Information **cannot** perform research, provide legal advice, or interpret Maine law. For legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.

Amend the bill by striking out everything after the title and before the emergency clause and inserting the following:

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, this legislation needs to take effect before the expiration of the 90-day period because the number of drug overdoses and ensuing deaths is on the rise; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA c. 556-A is enacted to read:

CHAPTER 556-A

OPIOIDS

§ 2353. Opioid antagonists

1. Definition. As used in this section, unless the context otherwise indicates, "opioid antagonist" means a drug that binds to opioid receptors and blocks or inhibits the effects of opioids acting on those receptors, including, but not limited to, naloxone hydrochloride.

2. Authorized administration of an opioid antagonist by law enforcement officers and municipal firefighters. A law enforcement officer as defined in Title 17-A, section 2, subsection 17, in accordance with policies adopted by the law enforcement agency, and a municipal firefighter as defined in Title 30-A, section 3151, subsection 2, in accordance with policies adopted by the municipality, may administer an intranasal opioid antagonist as clinically indicated.

3. Authorized administration of an opioid antagonist by emergency medical personnel. An advanced emergency medical technician, basic emergency medical services person, basic emergency medical technician, first responder and emergency medical services' person as defined in Title 32, section 83, in accordance with policies applicable to the performance of their duties, may administer an opioid antagonist in accordance with the provisions of Title 32, chapter 2-B.'

SUMMARY

This amendment is the minority report of the committee. This amendment clarifies language in the emergency preamble. This amendment retains the provision of the bill that defines "opioid antagonist." This amendment provides that emergency medical personnel may, in accordance with policies applicable to the performance of their duties, administer opioid antagonists in accordance with the provisions of the Maine Revised Statutes, Title 32, chapter 2-B. This amendment authorizes law enforcement officers in accordance with policies adopted by a law enforcement agency and municipal firefighters in accordance with policies adopted by a municipality to administer intranasal opioid antagonists. This amendment strikes provisions of the bill pertaining to grants for drug overdose education projects, an annual report on unintentional drug overdose fatalities in the State, immunity for prescribing, possessing and administering opioid antagonists, Medicaid coverage for opioid antagonists, pharmacy licensure and collaborative practice.