



Testimony of Debra McIntyre, Executive Director, on behalf of the members of the Maine Curriculum Leaders Association, testifying in opposition to LD 1315 An Act to Require Instruction in Schools on Substance Abuse Prevention and Administration of Naloxone Hydrochloride

Senator Rafferty, Representative Brennan, and members of the Education and Cultural Affairs Committee, my name is Debra McIntyre, and I am the Executive Director of the Maine Curriculum Leaders Association. On behalf of the members of MCLA, I offer testimony in opposition to LD 1315 An Act to Require Instruction in Schools on Substance Abuse Prevention and Administration of Naloxone Hydrochloride.

As I have stated before, the Maine Learning Results standards provide a set of clear expectations as to what students should know, understand and be able to explain as they progress through each K-12 grade level. The health standards, which were recently revised in 2021, include substance use prevention starting in the middle grades and continuing through in the high school standards. In addition, state statute 4723 refers to a secondary course of study must have instruction in the effects of alcoholic drinks, stimulants and narcotics including the impact on consent.

Therefore, we believe that the instruction is already required, although not on an annual basis, which would be impractical in the high school setting. Typically, this instruction occurs in a students' health class, not in other content areas. We are opposed to the additional requirement of including instruction at each grade level. Furthermore, we are concerned with students being trained in the administration of Naloxone Hydrochloride in the school setting.

For these reasons, MCLA is opposed to LD 1315.
Thank you for your time.