

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 803 Session of 2025

INTRODUCED BY FREEMAN, JAMES, MADDEN, STEELE, ISAACSON, PIELLI, WAXMAN, SANCHEZ, HILL-EVANS, HOWARD, KAZEEM, WARREN, GIRAL, OTTEN, D. WILLIAMS, MAYES, HOHENSTEIN, GREEN, CIRESI, RIVERA, KENYATTA, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ, KRAJEWSKI, BRENNAN AND INGLIS, MARCH 4, 2025

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, MARCH 4, 2025

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), entitled "An  
 2 act relating to the public school system, including certain  
 3 provisions applicable as well to private and parochial  
 4 schools; amending, revising, consolidating and changing the  
 5 laws relating thereto," in school health services, providing  
 6 for maintenance and use of opioid antagonists.

7 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
 8 hereby enacts as follows:

9 Section 1. The act of March 10, 1949 (P.L.30, No.14), known  
 10 as the Public School Code of 1949, is amended by adding a  
 11 section to read:

12 Section 1426. Maintenance and Use of Opioid Antagonists.--

13 (a) Within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this  
 14 section, the department, in consultation with the Department of  
 15 Health, shall develop a policy requiring a school entity  
 16 offering grade nine, ten, eleven or twelve to maintain and  
 17 provide onsite opioid antagonists in each school facility.

18 (b) The policy developed under subsection (a):

1 (1) Shall include procedures to follow when dealing with a  
2 suspected opioid overdose event.

3 (2) May not require an individual to administer an opioid  
4 antagonist.

5 (3) Shall provide the quantities and types of opioid  
6 antagonists to be maintained by the school entity.

7 (c) A trained school nurse, teacher or other individual in a  
8 school entity who is considered qualified by the department may  
9 administer an opioid antagonist during an emergency to a student  
10 or staff member at a school facility having a suspected opioid  
11 overdose event whether or not there is a previous history of  
12 drug abuse.

13 (d) A school nurse, teacher or other individual may receive  
14 training in the administration of opioid antagonists provided by  
15 the Department of Health.

16 (e) A school entity shall maintain opioid antagonists at  
17 each school facility in a safe and secure location.

18 (f) When an opioid antagonist is administered under this  
19 section to a student or staff member at a school facility, the  
20 school nurse, teacher or other individual considered qualified  
21 by the department shall ensure that the student or staff member  
22 is transported to the nearest hospital emergency department for  
23 medical care.

24 (g) A school nurse, teacher or individual who has completed  
25 training as required by the department under this section and  
26 who, acting in good faith and with reasonable care, administers  
27 an opioid antagonist to a student or staff member who is having  
28 a suspected opioid overdose event:

29 (1) Shall be immune from criminal prosecution, sanction  
30 under professional licensing statute and civil liability for

1 administering the opioid antagonist.

2 (2) May not be subject to professional review for  
3 administering the opioid antagonist.

4 (3) May not be liable for civil damages for acts or  
5 omissions resulting from administration of the opioid  
6 antagonist.

7 (h) The receipt of the required training and the prompt  
8 seeking of additional medical assistance by an individual  
9 authorized under this section to do so creates a rebuttable  
10 presumption that the individual acted with reasonable care in  
11 administering the opioid antagonist.

12 (i) As used in this section, the following words and phrases  
13 shall have the meanings given to them in this subsection unless  
14 the context clearly indicates otherwise:

15 "Department" means the Department of Education of the  
16 Commonwealth.

17 "Opioid antagonist" means a drug that binds to opioid  
18 receptors and blocks or inhibits the effects of opioids acting  
19 on the receptors. The term includes naloxone hydrochloride, also  
20 known as Narcan or naloxone.

21 "School entity" means a public school, including a charter  
22 school or cyber charter school, private school, nonpublic  
23 school, intermediate unit or area career and technical school  
24 operating within this Commonwealth.

25 "Suspected opioid overdose event" means an acute medical  
26 condition, including severe physical illness, coma, mania,  
27 hysteria or death:

28 (1) resulting from the consumption or use of an opioid  
29 causing an adverse reaction; and

30 (2) that a prudent person, possessing an average knowledge

1 of medicine and health, would reasonably believe is in fact an  
2 overdose of a drug requiring immediate medical attention.

3 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.