

ASSEMBLY, No. 1588

STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2018 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.

District 7 (Burlington)

Assemblyman GREGORY P. MCGUCKIN

District 10 (Ocean)

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District 10 (Ocean)

Co-Sponsored by:

**Assemblyman Johnson, Assemblywomen Mosquera, Quijano and
Assemblyman Rooney**

SYNOPSIS

Requires anyone receiving opioid antidote to treat drug overdose be provided with information concerning substance abuse treatment programs and resources.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 AN ACT concerning substance abuse treatment and supplementing
2 Title 24 of the Revised Statutes.

3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6

7 1. a. If an opioid antidote is administered by a health care
8 professional or a first responder to a person experiencing a drug
9 overdose, information concerning substance abuse treatment
10 programs and resources shall be provided to the person as follows:

11 (1) If the person is admitted to a health care facility or receives
12 treatment in the emergency department of a health care facility, the
13 health care professional with primary responsibility for the person's
14 care shall provide the information to the person at any time after
15 treatment for the drug overdose is complete but prior to the person's
16 discharge from the facility. The health care professional shall
17 document the provision of the information in the person's medical
18 record, and may additionally develop an individualized substance
19 abuse treatment plan for the person.

20 (2) If the opioid antidote is administered by a first responder and
21 the person experiencing the overdose is not subsequently
22 transported to a health care facility, the first responder shall provide
23 the information to the person at the time treatment for the drug
24 overdose is complete.

25 b. As used in this section:

26 "First responder" means a law enforcement officer, paid or
27 volunteer firefighter, paid or volunteer member of a duly
28 incorporated first aid, emergency, ambulance, or rescue squad
29 association, or any other individual who, in the course of that
30 individual's employment, is dispatched to the scene of an
31 emergency situation for the purpose of providing medical care or
32 other assistance.

33 "Health care facility" means a health care facility licensed
34 pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.).

35 c. The Commissioner of Health, in consultation with the
36 Commissioner of Human Services, shall develop informational
37 materials concerning substance abuse treatment programs and
38 resources for dissemination to health care professionals and first
39 responders to facilitate the provision of information to patients
40 pursuant to this section.

41

42 2. This act shall take effect the first day of the fourth month
43 next following the date of enactment, except that the Commissioner
44 of Health may take such anticipatory administrative action in
45 advance thereof as shall be necessary for the implementation of this
46 act.

STATEMENT

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This bill requires that a person experiencing a drug overdose who is administered an opioid antidote is provided with information concerning substance abuse treatment programs and resources, including information on the availability of opioid antidotes. If the person is admitted to a health care facility or receives treatment in the emergency department of a health care facility, a staff member designated by the facility, such as a social worker or addiction counselor, will be required to provide the information at any time after treatment for the drug overdose is complete but prior to the person's discharge from the facility. The designated staff member will also be required to document the provision of the information in the person's medical record and will be permitted to develop, in conjunction with an appropriate health care professional, a substance abuse treatment plan for the person. If the opioid antidote is administered by a first responder and the person is not subsequently transported to a health care facility, the first responder will be required to provide the information when treatment for the drug overdose is complete.

The Commissioner of Human Services will be required to develop informational materials concerning substance abuse treatment programs and resources, including information on the availability of opioid antidotes, for dissemination to health care professionals and first responders to facilitate the provision of information to patients pursuant to the committee substitute.