

# SENATE, No. 3163

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 26, 2018

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Senator JOSEPH F. VITALE**

**District 19 (Middlesex)**

**Co-Sponsored by:**

**Senator Corrado**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires public high school students to receive instruction concerning opioid abuse and opioid abuse prevention.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



**(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/4/2018)**

1 AN ACT concerning instructional programs in public schools on  
2 opioid abuse and supplementing P.L.1987, c.389 (C.18A:40A-1  
3 et seq.).

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

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8 1. a. The instructional programs required under section 1 of  
9 P.L.1987, c.389 (C.18A:40A-1) shall include for students in grades  
10 nine through 12, instruction concerning the use and misuse of  
11 opioid drugs, the dangers of opioid abuse, the connection between  
12 prescription opioid abuse and addiction to other drugs such as  
13 heroin, and opioid abuse prevention. The instruction also shall  
14 include information on providing appropriate assistance to an  
15 overdose victim, including recognizing the signs of an opioid  
16 overdose and the importance of calling 911 for assistance.

17 b. (1) A school district may, in its discretion, establish a  
18 program for students in grade 12 that provides training in how to  
19 administer an opioid antidote, such as naloxone hydrochloride, to an  
20 overdose victim in an emergency.

21 (2) A student shall be excused from a training program  
22 established under paragraph (1) of this subsection upon the written  
23 request of the student's parent or guardian. No penalties shall result  
24 from a student's non-participation in the program.

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26 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall first apply to  
27 the first full school year following the date of enactment.

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30 STATEMENT

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32 Current law, P.L.1987, c.389 (C.18A:40A-1 et seq.), requires  
33 public schools to provide age-appropriate instructional programs on  
34 drugs, alcohol, anabolic steroids, tobacco, and controlled dangerous  
35 substances in each grade from kindergarten through 12. This bill  
36 would require that the instructional programs for grades nine  
37 through 12 include instruction concerning the use and misuse of  
38 opioid drugs, the dangers of opioid abuse, the connection between  
39 prescription opioid abuse and addiction to other drugs such as  
40 heroin, and opioid abuse prevention. Under the bill, the instruction  
41 will also include information on providing appropriate assistance to  
42 an overdose victim, including recognizing the signs of an opioid  
43 overdose and the importance of calling 911 for assistance.

44 In addition, the bill permits school districts to establish a  
45 program for students in grade 12 that provides training in how to  
46 administer an opioid antidote, such as naloxone hydrochloride, to an  
47 overdose victim in an emergency. The bill provides that a student

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- 1 will be excused from participation in the training program upon the
- 2 written request of the student's parent or guardian, and no penalties
- 3 will result from a student's non-participation.