

# SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **SENATE, No. 3287**

with committee amendments

# **STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: DECEMBER 14, 2023

The Senate Education Committee favorably reports Senate Bill No. 3287 with committee amendments.

This amended bill requires institutions of higher education to maintain a supply of naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray for opioid overdose emergencies and permits emergency administration of naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray by licensed campus medical professionals and designated members of the higher education community.

Institutions of higher education are to obtain a supply of naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray pursuant to a standing order issued by a health care practitioner to be maintained in secure and easily accessible locations throughout the campus in order to respond to an opioid overdose emergency. Institutions also would be required to develop a policy concerning the emergency administration of naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray for opioid overdose emergencies occurring on campus. The policy is required to: (1) designate a licensed campus medical professional to oversee the institution's program for the maintenance and emergency administration of naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray on campus; (2) permit a licensed campus medical professional to designate members of the higher education community including, but not limited to, resident assistants, emergency responders, campus security officers, and licensed athletic trainers to administer naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray to any person whom the member in good faith believes is experiencing an opioid overdose on campus; and (3) require the institution to offer an overdose victim transportation to a hospital emergency room by emergency services personnel after the administration of naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray, even if the person's symptoms appear to have resolved. A member of the higher education community designated to administer naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray by a licensed campus medical professional is only to be authorized to administer the spray after receiving the required training.

The amended bill also directs the Secretary of Higher Education, in consultation with the Commissioner of Human Services and appropriate medical experts, to establish guidelines for the

development of a policy by an institution of higher education for the emergency administration of naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray. Institutions of higher education are required to implement the guidelines in developing a policy pursuant to the amended bill. Specifically, the guidelines are to include a requirement that a licensed campus medical professional and members of the higher education community designated by the licensed campus medical professional receive training on standard protocols for the emergency administration of naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray to a person experiencing an opioid overdose on campus. The training is also to include overdose prevention information described in the State's "Overdose Prevention Act." The guidelines are to further specify an appropriate entity or entities to provide the training.

The amended bill provides immunity from liability for institutions of higher education, licensed campus medical professionals, designated members of the higher education community, pharmacists, or authorized health care practitioners who issue a standing order for naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray to an institution of higher education for any good faith act or omission consistent with the provisions of the amended bill. For purposes of this amended bill, good faith does not include willful misconduct, gross negligence, or recklessness. The amended bill also provides that in the event that a licensed athletic trainer, who is designated pursuant to the amended bill to administer naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray, administers the spray, it is not to constitute a violation of the "Athletic Training Licensure Act."

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to:

- require an institution of higher education to offer an overdose victim transportation to a hospital emergency room by emergency services personnel after the administration of naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray;
- extend immunity from liability to institutions of higher education for any good faith act or omission consistent with the provisions of the amended bill; and
- provide that the Secretary of Higher Education is to consult with the Commissioner of Human Services when developing the required guidelines for the development of an institution policy and provide that the institution of higher education's governing board is to consult with the Commissioner of Human Services when determining the quantity and types of naloxone hydrochloride nasal spray required to meet the amended bill's provisions. The bill, as introduced, required consultation with the Commissioner of Health.