

**House File 2380 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 2380

BY COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY

(SUCCESSOR TO HF 2132)

**A BILL FOR**

- 1 An Act relating to the possession and administration of
- 2 emergency drugs by first responders for purposes of treating
- 3 drug overdose victims.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 147A.1, Code 2016, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsections:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 6A. "*First responder*" means an emergency  
4 medical care provider, a fire fighter, or a peace officer as  
5 defined in section 801.4.

6 NEW SUBSECTION. 6B. "*Licensed health care professional*"  
7 means the same as defined in section 280.16.

8 NEW SUBSECTION. 6C. "*Opioid antagonist*" means a drug that  
9 binds to opioid receptors and blocks or inhibits the effects of  
10 opioids acting on those receptors, including but not limited  
11 to naloxone hydrochloride or any other similarly acting drug  
12 approved by the United States food and drug administration.

13 NEW SUBSECTION. 6D. "*Opioid-related overdose*" means  
14 a condition affecting a person which may include extreme  
15 physical illness, a decreased level of consciousness,  
16 respiratory depression, a coma, or the ceasing of respiratory  
17 or circulatory function resulting from the consumption or use  
18 of an opioid, or another substance with which an opioid was  
19 combined.

20 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. 147A.18 **Possession and administration**  
21 **of an opioid antagonist — immunity.**

22 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
23 contrary, a licensed health care professional may prescribe  
24 an opioid antagonist in the name of a service program, law  
25 enforcement agency, or fire department to be maintained for use  
26 as provided in this section.

27 2. A service program, law enforcement agency, or fire  
28 department may obtain a prescription for and maintain a supply  
29 of opioid antagonists. A service program, law enforcement  
30 agency, or fire department that obtains such a prescription  
31 shall replace an opioid antagonist upon its use or expiration.

32 3. A first responder employed by a service program, law  
33 enforcement agency, or fire department that maintains a supply  
34 of opioid antagonists pursuant to this section may possess  
35 and provide or administer such an opioid antagonist to an

1 individual if the first responder reasonably and in good faith  
2 believes that such individual is experiencing an opioid-related  
3 overdose.

4 4. The following persons, provided they have acted  
5 reasonably and in good faith, shall not be liable for any  
6 injury arising from the provision, administration, or  
7 assistance in the administration of an opioid antagonist as  
8 provided in this section:

9 a. A first responder who provides, administers, or assists  
10 in the administration of an opioid antagonist to an individual  
11 as provided in this section.

12 b. A service program, law enforcement agency, or fire  
13 department.

14 c. The prescriber of the opioid antagonist.

15 5. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter  
16 17A to implement and administer this section, including but  
17 not limited to standards and procedures for the prescription,  
18 distribution, storage, replacement, and administration of  
19 opioid antagonists, and for the training required for first  
20 responders to administer an opioid antagonist.

21 EXPLANATION

22 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
23 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

24 This bill authorizes emergency medical service programs, law  
25 enforcement agencies, and fire departments to obtain a supply  
26 of opioid antagonists, and first responders to possess opioid  
27 antagonists for administration to drug overdose victims.

28 The bill defines "first responder" as an emergency medical  
29 care provider, a fire fighter, or a peace officer as defined  
30 in Code section 801.4. The bill defines "licensed health care  
31 professional" as a person licensed under Code chapter 148 to  
32 practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and  
33 surgery, an advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed  
34 under Code chapter 152 or 152E and registered with the board of  
35 nursing, or a physician assistant licensed to practice under

1 the supervision of a physician as authorized in Code chapters  
2 147 and 148C. "Opioid antagonist" is defined as a drug that  
3 binds to opioid receptors and blocks or inhibits the effects of  
4 opioids acting on those receptors, including but not limited  
5 to naloxone hydrochloride or any other similarly acting drug  
6 approved by the United States food and drug administration.  
7 The bill defines "opioid-related overdose" as a condition  
8 affecting a person which may include extreme physical illness,  
9 a decreased level of consciousness, respiratory depression, a  
10 coma, or the ceasing of respiratory or circulatory function  
11 resulting from the consumption or use of an opioid, or another  
12 substance with which an opioid was combined.

13 The bill provides that a licensed health care professional  
14 may prescribe an opioid antagonist in the name of a service  
15 program, law enforcement agency, or fire department. The  
16 service program, law enforcement agency, or fire department may  
17 maintain a supply of opioid antagonists. From that supply, a  
18 first responder may possess and administer an opioid antagonist  
19 to an individual, so long as the first responder reasonably and  
20 in good faith believes that such individual is experiencing an  
21 opioid-related overdose.

22 The bill provides immunity from legal liability to any first  
23 responder, emergency medical service program, law enforcement  
24 agency, fire department, and the person who prescribed the  
25 opioid antagonist from any injury arising from the provision or  
26 administration of an opioid antagonist, so long as such person  
27 acted reasonably and in good faith.

28 The bill directs the department of public health to adopt  
29 rules to implement and administer the bill, including but not  
30 limited to standards and procedures for the prescription,  
31 distribution, storage, replacement, and administration of  
32 opioid antagonists, and for training to be required for first  
33 responders to administer an opioid antagonist.