

2016 Bills Related to Opioid Abuse and Addiction Prevention

compiled by

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HB 5053 AN ACT INCREASING ACCESS TO OVERDOSE REVERSAL DRUGS (referred to Planning and Development Committee)

Requires that by January 2017, municipalities ensure that their local EMS providers are equipped with opioid antagonists (such as Narcan) and are trained in its use. The bill additionally prohibits insurers from requiring prior authorization before the drug is dispensed.

SB 129 AN ACT CONCERNING INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR ABUSE-DETERRENT OPIOID ANALGESICS (Reported out of Insurance)

The bill requires that insurers provide coverage for abuse-deterrent opioid analgesics (at least one per opioid analgesic active ingredient). Additionally insurers are prohibited from requiring an insured to use a non-abuse-deterrent opioid analgesic prior to using an abuse-deterrent opioid analgesic.

HB 5452 AN ACT CONCERNING A PRESCRIPTION DRUG EDUCATION PROGRAM (Reported out of Public Health)

Requires that the education program on utilization of prescription be done in collaboration with UConn and the Healthcare Cost Containment Committee. Prior law required collaboration with Yale. Allows the program to seek private funding. Also requires a report on the program's effectiveness in reducing state spending on prescription drugs.

HB 5620 AN ACT CONCERNING INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR OPIOID ANALGESICS AND REQUIRING A STUDY OF IMPEDIMENTS TO INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENTS (in Appropriations)

Prohibits insurers from providing coverage for opioid analgesics for more than a thirty-day supply per prescription or refill, and requires the Insurance Commissioner to study impediments for insureds to receive substance use disorder treatment and submit a report to the Insurance and Public Health Committee.

SB 352 AN ACT CONCERNING PRESCRIPTIONS FOR AND THE DISPENSING OF OPIOID ANTAGONISTS (PASSED Public Health)

Permits prescribing practitioners to issue a standing order to pharmacists to permit them to dispense an opioid antagonist in a nasal form to a person without a patient-specific prescription. Also prohibits a prescribing practitioner from prescribing more than a seven-day supply of an opioid drug. However, the bill allows them to prescribe more than a seven-day supply if, in his or her professional judgment, it is required to treat someone's medical conditions.

SB 353 AN ACT CONCERNING OPIOID ABUSE (PASSED Public Health)

Adds more stakeholders as members to the State Alcohol and Drug Policy Council, and allows a physician, APRN or PA to refer a patient to a licensed alcohol or drug counselor (LADC) for an assessment of opioid abuse or invention for opioid abuse prevention or prescribe an opioid to a patient conditioned on the patient's agreement.

