

SB 665 A STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Carrier: Sen. Johnson

Senate Committee On Education

Action Date: 03/27/19
Action: Do pass with amendments. (Printed A-Eng.)
Vote: 4-0-1-0
Yeas: 4 - Gelser, Hass, Thomsen, Wagner
Exc: 1 - Heard
Fiscal: Has minimal fiscal impact
Revenue: No revenue impact
Prepared By: Tamara Dykeman, LPRO Analyst
Meeting Dates: 3/27

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

Adds naloxone to the definition of medication for purposes of administering medicine to students and other individuals on school premises. Directs the State Board of Education to adopt rules for the administration of naloxone to reverse opioid overdoses. Establishes requirements for administration. Permits school districts to adopt policies for administering medications if policies are consistent with State Board of Education rules. Provides immunity from criminal actions or civil damages related to the good faith and proper administration of the medication.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Incidences of opioid overdoses
- Oregon Department of Education's requirement for administering prescription drugs
- Not mandatory for school districts
- Safety of naloxone and other similar drugs
- Legislative intent not to make administering naloxone or similar drugs more difficult

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

Removes requirement that school districts adopt polices related to the administration of naloxone and other medications. Allows school districts to adopt policies if consistent with rules adopted by the State Board of Education.

BACKGROUND:

Naloxone is a medication designed to rapidly reverse opioid overdose. It binds to opioid receptors and can reverse and block the effects of other opioids. It can very quickly restore normal respiration to a person whose breathing has slowed or stopped as a result of overdosing with heroin or prescription opioid pain medications. In 2016, there were 312 opioid-related overdose deaths in Oregon, a rate of 7.6 deaths per 100,000 persons compared to the national rate of 13.3 deaths per 100,000. Senate Bill 665 A permits school districts to adopt rules to allow trained school personnel to administer naloxone and similar medications if a student or other individual overdoses on opioids at school, on school property, or at a school-sponsored activity.