

State of South Dakota

NINETY-SECOND SESSION
LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 2017

529Y0335

SENATE ENGROSSED NO. **HB 1082** - 3/7/2017

Introduced by: Representatives Hunhoff, Bartling, Beal, Bordeaux, Brunner, Chase, Conzet, DiSanto, Duvall, Gosch, Greenfield (Lana), Haggar, Hawley, Jensen (Kevin), Johns, Lust, McCleerey, Mickelson, Peterson (Kent), Qualm, Reed, Rhoden, Rounds, Rozum, Schoenfish, Steinhauer, Turbiville, Wismer, York, and Zikmund and Senators Tidemann, Cammack, Cronin, Curd, Ewing, Frerichs, Greenfield (Brock), Haverly, Heinert, Jensen (Phil), Kennedy, Kolbeck, Langer, Maher, Netherton, Novstrup, Otten (Ernie), Partridge, Peters, Soholt, Stalzer, Sutton, and White

1 FOR AN ACT ENTITLED, An Act to grant limited immunity from arrest and prosecution for
2 certain related offenses to persons who assist certain persons in need of emergency
3 assistance or who are themselves in need of emergency assistance.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

5 Section 1. That the code be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

6 Terms used in this Act mean:

7 (1) "Drug-related overdose," an acute condition, including mania, hysteria, extreme
8 physical illness, coma, or death resulting from the consumption or use of a controlled
9 substance, or another substance with which a controlled substance was combined,
10 and that a person would reasonably believe to be a drug overdose that requires
11 medical assistance.

12 Section 2. That the code be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:



1 No person may be arrested or prosecuted for any misdemeanor or felony offense of
2 possession, inhalation, ingestion, or otherwise taking into the body any controlled drug or
3 substance if that person contacts any law enforcement or emergency medical services and
4 reports that a person is in need of emergency medical assistance as the result of a drug-related
5 overdose. A person qualifies for the immunities provided in this Act only if:

6 (1) The evidence for the charge or prosecution was obtained as a result of the person
7 seeking medical assistance for another person;

8 (2) The person seeks medical assistance for another person who is in need of medical
9 assistance for an immediate health or safety concern; and

10 (3) The person seeking medical assistance for another person remains on the scene and
11 cooperates with medical assistance and law enforcement personnel.

12 Section 3. That the code be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

13 A person who experiences a drug-related overdose and is in need of medical assistance may
14 not be arrested, charged, or prosecuted for any misdemeanor or felony offense of possession,
15 inhalation, ingestion, or otherwise taking into the body any controlled drug or substance if that
16 person contacts law enforcement or emergency medical services and reports that he or she is in
17 need of medical assistance as the result of a drug-related overdose. A person qualifies for the
18 immunities provided in this section only if the evidence for the charge or prosecution was
19 obtained as a result of the drug-related overdose and the need for medical assistance.

20 Section 4. That the code be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

21 Providing first aid or other medical assistance to someone who is experiencing a drug-
22 related overdose may be used as a mitigating factor in a criminal prosecution for which
23 immunity is not provided under this Act. Nothing in this Act may be construed to:

24 (1) Bar the admissibility of any evidence obtained in connection with the investigation

1 and prosecution of other crimes or violations committed by a person who otherwise
2 qualifies for limited immunity pursuant to this Act; or

3 (2) Limit, modify, or remove any immunity from liability currently available to public
4 entities, public employees by law, or prosecutors.

5 Section 5. That the code be amended by adding a NEW SECTION to read:

6 Any person seeking medical assistance or reports a person is in need of medical assistance
7 shall only qualify once for immunity under this Act.