



128th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-2018

Legislative Document

No. 1892

H.P. 1325

House of Representatives, March 29, 2018

**An Act To Clarify the Prescribing and Dispensing of Naloxone
Hydrochloride by Pharmacists**

(AFTER DEADLINE)

(EMERGENCY)

Approved for introduction by a majority of the Legislative Council pursuant to Joint Rule 205.

Reference to the Committee on Labor, Commerce, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Robert B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Speaker GIDEON of Freeport.
Cosponsored by Senator WOODSOME of York and
Representatives: CHACE of Durham, FECTEAU of Biddeford, HEAD of Bethel,
HYMANSON of York, SYLVESTER of Portland, VACHON of Scarborough, Senators: DILL
of Penobscot, SAVIELLO of Franklin.

Emergency preamble. Whereas, acts and resolves of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, the State is facing a crisis due to the number of deaths caused by opioid-related drug overdoses; and

Whereas, unanticipated confusion has arisen regarding the application of recently enacted laws that are intended to decrease the risks of opioid-related fatalities; and

Whereas, this legislation clarifies a perceived ambiguity in order to facilitate the unimpeded and expedient implementation of these critically important laws in order to save lives; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §2353, sub-§2, ¶E is enacted to read:

E. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, a pharmacist may prescribe and dispense naloxone hydrochloride to an individual of any age who is at risk of experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose; is a member of the immediate family of, or a friend of, an individual at risk of experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose; or is in a position to assist an individual at risk of experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose.

Emergency clause. In view of the emergency cited in the preamble, this legislation takes effect when approved.

SUMMARY

This bill clarifies that a pharmacist may prescribe and dispense naloxone hydrochloride to an individual of any age who is at risk of experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose; is a member of the immediate family of, or a friend of, an individual at risk of experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose; or is in a position to assist an individual at risk of experiencing an opioid-related drug overdose.