



H.R. 3065, School Access to Naloxone Act

Endorsed By: National Association of School Nurses, National Association of School Superintendents, School Based Health Alliance, Fentanyl Fathers

Co-Lead: *Rep. David Joyce* Co-Sponsors: Reps. *Bacon, Craig, Crenshaw, Fitzpatrick, Guest, Pettersen, Sherrill, Spanberger, Tonko, Trone, Wild, Lamborn, Grijalva, Neguse, Norcross, Allred, Sanchez, Dean, McCollum, Keating, Molinaro*

BILL SUMMARY

The School Access to Naloxone Act aims to reduce opioid overdose deaths in young Americans by incentivizing the stocking of naloxone and the training of staff on its safe administration in school settings.

This bill would expand eligibility under the PHSA Section 544 program [Grants for Reducing Overdose Deaths](#) to provide new grant opportunities specifically directed at providing schools with funding to access and administer naloxone. The Grants for Reducing Overdose Deaths program is already authorized and appropriated under existing law at \$1 million per year, and each grantee can receive up to \$200,000 per grant year. The grants are open to entities (states, localities, districts, or tribes) that require 1) schools to stock naloxone 2) staff to be trained on its administration and 3) civil liability protection for trained personnel who administer naloxone in a school setting.

BACKGROUND

The number of adolescent overdose deaths in the United States has been steadily rising from 492 in 2019 to 952 in 2020 and, in the most recent available data, 1,146 in 2021. Experts estimate prescription and synthetic opioids account for 77% of overdose deaths (Friedman et al, JAMA, 2022). The increased lethality of synthetic opioids including fentanyl when compared to prescription opioids is believed to be a major contributing factor to the rising national overdose mortality rate.

Most opioid overdose deaths could be avoided by the timely administration of naloxone, a safe and effective opioid reversal agent. As exposure and addiction to highly lethal opioids continue to impact a growing number of American adolescents, schools will continue to serve as a front line of this crisis. Additional funding opportunities would allow for more American adolescents to access lifesaving overdose reversal treatment.

***Questions or want to sign on? Contact Meg Montgomery at
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