

# SENATE BILL 610

J1, J2

3lr1063  
CF HB 890

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By: Senators Klausmeier, Brinkley, Madaleno, and ~~Montgomery~~ Montgomery, Astle, Garagiola, Glassman, Kelley, Kittleman, Mathias, Middleton, Pipkin, Pugh, and Ramirez

Introduced and read first time: February 1, 2013  
Assigned to: Finance and Judicial Proceedings

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Committee Report: Favorable with amendments  
Senate action: Adopted  
Read second time: March 20, 2013

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## CHAPTER \_\_\_\_\_

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health – Overdose Response Program – Establishment**

3 FOR the purpose of providing for an Overdose Response Program overseen by the  
4 Department of Health and Mental Hygiene; stating the purpose of the Program;  
5 ~~authorizing~~ requiring the Department to adopt certain regulations and  
6 authorizing the Department to take certain other action regarding the Program;  
7 specifying the requirements an individual must meet to qualify for a certain  
8 certificate; requiring that a certain educational training program be conducted  
9 by a physician or nurse practitioner or certain other individuals and include  
10 certain training; requiring an applicant for a certificate to submit a certain  
11 application; requiring a certain public or private entity to issue a certificate to  
12 an applicant under certain circumstances; requiring that a certificate contain  
13 certain information; providing that a replacement certificate may be issued  
14 under certain circumstances; providing for the term and renewal of a certain  
15 certificate; authorizing an individual who is certified to receive from a certain  
16 individual a prescription for naloxone and certain supplies, possess prescribed  
17 naloxone and certain paraphernalia, and administer naloxone, under certain  
18 circumstances, to certain individuals; authorizing a physician or nurse  
19 practitioner to prescribe and dispense naloxone to a certificate holder;  
20 ~~prohibiting a certain cause of action from arising against a certificate holder,~~  
21 ~~physician, or nurse practitioner under certain circumstances; prohibiting a~~  
22 ~~certificate holder, physician, and nurse practitioner from being held civilly or~~  
23 ~~criminally liable for certain actions;~~ providing that a certificate holder, under

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EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 certain circumstances, may not be considered to be practicing medicine for the  
 2 purposes of a certain provision of law; ~~providing that a certain provision of this~~  
 3 ~~Act does not affect certain immunities or defenses; prohibiting an individual~~  
 4 ~~from being held civilly liable in certain actions under certain circumstances~~  
 5 providing that a physician who prescribes or dispenses naloxone may not be  
 6 subject to certain disciplinary or other action under certain circumstances;  
 7 providing for the construction of this Act; defining certain terms; and generally  
 8 relating to the Overdose Response Program.

9 BY adding to

10 Article – Health – General

11 Section 13–3101 through ~~13–3110~~ 13–3109 to be under the new subtitle

12 “Subtitle 31. Overdose Response Program”

13 Annotated Code of Maryland

14 (2009 Replacement Volume and 2012 Supplement)

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
 16 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

17 **Article – Health – General**

18 **SUBTITLE 31. OVERDOSE RESPONSE PROGRAM.**

19 **13–3101.**

20 (A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS  
 21 INDICATED.

22 (B) “CERTIFICATE” MEANS A CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY A PRIVATE OR  
 23 PUBLIC ENTITY TO ADMINISTER NALOXONE.

24 (C) “PRIVATE OR PUBLIC ENTITY” MEANS A HEALTH CARE PROVIDER,  
 25 LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT, COMMUNITY–BASED ORGANIZATION, SUBSTANCE  
 26 ABUSE TREATMENT ORGANIZATION, OR OTHER PERSON THAT ADDRESSES  
 27 MEDICAL OR SOCIAL ISSUES RELATED TO DRUG ADDICTION.

28 (D) “PROGRAM” MEANS AN OVERDOSE RESPONSE PROGRAM.

29 **13–3102.**

30 AN OVERDOSE RESPONSE PROGRAM IS A PROGRAM OVERSEEN BY THE  
 31 DEPARTMENT FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING A MEANS OF AUTHORIZING  
 32 CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS TO ADMINISTER NALOXONE TO AN INDIVIDUAL  
 33 EXPERIENCING, OR BELIEVED TO BE EXPERIENCING, OPIOID OVERDOSE TO

1 HELP PREVENT A FATALITY WHEN MEDICAL SERVICES ARE NOT IMMEDIATELY  
2 AVAILABLE.

3 13-3103.

4 (A) THE DEPARTMENT ~~MAY:~~

5 ~~(1)~~ ADOPT SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS NECESSARY FOR THE  
6 ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROGRAM~~;~~.

7 (B) THE DEPARTMENT MAY:

8 ~~(2)~~ (1) COLLECT FEES NECESSARY FOR THE ADMINISTRATION  
9 OF THE PROGRAM;

10 ~~(3)~~ (2) AUTHORIZE PRIVATE OR PUBLIC ENTITIES TO ISSUE  
11 AND RENEW CERTIFICATES TO PERSONS MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS  
12 SUBTITLE;

13 ~~(4)~~ (3) (I) AUTHORIZE PRIVATE OR PUBLIC ENTITIES TO  
14 CONDUCT EDUCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS DESCRIBED IN § 13-3104 OF  
15 THIS SUBTITLE; AND

16 (II) DEVELOP GUIDANCE REGARDING THE CONTENT OF  
17 EDUCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAMS CONDUCTED BY PRIVATE OR PUBLIC  
18 ENTITIES; AND

19 ~~(5)~~ (4) COLLECT AND REPORT DATA ON THE OPERATION AND  
20 RESULTS OF THE PROGRAMS.

21 13-3104.

22 (A) TO QUALIFY FOR A CERTIFICATE, AN INDIVIDUAL SHALL MEET THE  
23 REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

24 (B) THE APPLICANT SHALL BE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD.

25 (C) THE APPLICANT SHALL HAVE, OR REASONABLY EXPECT TO HAVE,  
26 AS A RESULT OF THE INDIVIDUAL'S OCCUPATION OR VOLUNTEER, FAMILY, OR  
27 SOCIAL STATUS, THE ABILITY TO ASSIST AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS EXPERIENCING  
28 AN OPIOID OVERDOSE.

1           **(D) (1) THE APPLICANT SHALL SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE AN**  
2 **EDUCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM ~~APPROVED~~ OFFERED BY A PRIVATE OR**  
3 **PUBLIC ENTITY AUTHORIZED BY THE DEPARTMENT.**

4           **(2) AN EDUCATIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM REQUIRED UNDER**  
5 **THIS SUBSECTION SHALL:**

6                   **(I) BE CONDUCTED BY:**

7                           **1. A PHYSICIAN LICENSED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE**  
8 **UNDER TITLE 14 OF THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE;**

9                           **2. A NURSE PRACTITIONER LICENSED TO PRACTICE**  
10 **REGISTERED NURSING UNDER TITLE 8 OF THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS**  
11 **ARTICLE AND CERTIFIED AS A NURSE PRACTITIONER BY THE STATE BOARD OF**  
12 **NURSING; OR**

13                           **3. AN EMPLOYEE OR A VOLUNTEER OF A PRIVATE OR**  
14 **PUBLIC ENTITY THAT MAINTAINS A WRITTEN AGREEMENT WITH A SUPERVISORY**  
15 **PHYSICIAN OR NURSE PRACTITIONER THAT INCLUDES:**

16                                   **A. PROCEDURES FOR PROVIDING PATIENT**  
17 **OVERDOSE INFORMATION;**

18                                   **B. INFORMATION AS TO HOW THE EMPLOYEE OR**  
19 **VOLUNTEER PROVIDING THE INFORMATION WILL BE TRAINED; AND**

20                                   **C. STANDARDS FOR DOCUMENTING THE PROVISION**  
21 **OF PATIENT OVERDOSE INFORMATION TO PATIENTS; AND**

22                   **(II) INCLUDE TRAINING IN:**

23                                   **1. THE RECOGNITION OF THE SYMPTOMS OF OPIOID**  
24 **OVERDOSE;**

25                                   **2. THE PROPER ADMINISTRATION OF NALOXONE;**

26                                   **3. THE IMPORTANCE OF CONTACTING EMERGENCY**  
27 **MEDICAL SERVICES;**

28                                   **4. THE CARE OF AN INDIVIDUAL AFTER THE**  
29 **ADMINISTRATION OF NALOXONE; AND**

1                   **5. ANY OTHER TOPICS REQUIRED BY THE**  
2 **DEPARTMENT.**

3 **13-3105.**

4           **AN APPLICANT FOR A CERTIFICATE SHALL SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO A**  
5 **PRIVATE OR PUBLIC ENTITY AUTHORIZED BY THE DEPARTMENT ON THE FORM**  
6 **THAT THE DEPARTMENT REQUIRES.**

7 **13-3106.**

8           **(A) A PRIVATE OR PUBLIC ENTITY AUTHORIZED BY THE DEPARTMENT**  
9 **SHALL ISSUE A CERTIFICATE TO ANY APPLICANT WHO MEETS THE**  
10 **REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBTITLE.**

11           **(B) EACH CERTIFICATE SHALL INCLUDE:**

12                   **(1) A STATEMENT THAT THE HOLDER IS AUTHORIZED TO**  
13 **ADMINISTER NALOXONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE;**

14                   **(2) THE FULL NAME OF THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER; AND**

15                   **(3) A SERIAL NUMBER.**

16           **(C) A REPLACEMENT CERTIFICATE MAY BE ISSUED TO REPLACE A LOST,**  
17 **DESTROYED, OR MUTILATED CERTIFICATE.**

18           **(D) (1) THE CERTIFICATE SHALL BE VALID FOR 2 YEARS AND MAY BE**  
19 **RENEWED.**

20                   **(2) IN ORDER TO RENEW A CERTIFICATE, THE CERTIFICATE**  
21 **HOLDER SHALL:**

22                           **(I) SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE A REFRESHER TRAINING**  
23 **PROGRAM CONDUCTED BY AN AUTHORIZED PRIVATE OR PUBLIC ENTITY; OR**

24                           **(II) DEMONSTRATE PROFICIENCY TO THE PRIVATE OR**  
25 **PUBLIC ENTITY ISSUING CERTIFICATES UNDER THIS SUBTITLE.**

26 **13-3107.**

27           **AN INDIVIDUAL WHO IS CERTIFIED MAY:**

28                   **(1) ON PRESENTMENT OF A CERTIFICATE, RECEIVE FROM ANY**  
29 **PHYSICIAN LICENSED TO PRACTICE MEDICINE IN THE STATE, OR ANY NURSE**

1 PRACTITIONER LICENSED TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE STATE, A  
2 PRESCRIPTION FOR NALOXONE AND THE NECESSARY SUPPLIES FOR THE  
3 ADMINISTRATION OF NALOXONE;

4 (2) POSSESS PRESCRIBED NALOXONE AND THE NECESSARY  
5 SUPPLIES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF NALOXONE; AND

6 (3) IN AN EMERGENCY SITUATION WHEN MEDICAL SERVICES ARE  
7 NOT IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE, ADMINISTER NALOXONE TO AN INDIVIDUAL  
8 EXPERIENCING OR BELIEVED BY THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER TO BE  
9 EXPERIENCING AN OPIOID OVERDOSE.

10 13-3108.

11 A PHYSICIAN OR NURSE PRACTITIONER MAY PRESCRIBE AND DISPENSE  
12 NALOXONE TO A CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

13 13-3109.

14 (A) ~~(1) A CAUSE OF ACTION MAY NOT ARISE AGAINST A CERTIFICATE~~  
15 ~~HOLDER AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE FOR ANY ACT OR OMISSION WHEN~~  
16 ~~THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER IS ACTING IN GOOD FAITH WHILE RENDERING~~  
17 ~~EMERGENCY TREATMENT TO AN INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCING OR BELIEVED BY~~  
18 ~~THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER TO BE EXPERIENCING AN OPIOID OVERDOSE,~~  
19 ~~UNLESS THE CONDUCT OF THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER AMOUNTS TO GROSS~~  
20 ~~NEGLIGENCE, WILLFUL OR WANTON MISCONDUCT, OR INTENTIONALLY~~  
21 ~~TORTIOUS CONDUCT.~~

22 ~~(2) A CERTIFICATE HOLDER WHO IS IN POSSESSION OF OR IS~~  
23 ~~ADMINISTERING NALOXONE TO AN INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCING OR BELIEVED BY~~  
24 ~~THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER TO BE EXPERIENCING AN OPIOID OVERDOSE MAY~~  
25 ~~NOT BE HELD CIVILLY OR CRIMINALLY LIABLE FOR ACTIONS AUTHORIZED BY~~  
26 ~~THIS SUBTITLE.~~

27 (3) A CERTIFICATE HOLDER WHO, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS  
28 SUBTITLE, IS ADMINISTERING NALOXONE TO AN INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCING OR  
29 BELIEVED BY THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER TO BE EXPERIENCING AN OPIOID  
30 OVERDOSE MAY NOT BE CONSIDERED TO BE PRACTICING MEDICINE FOR THE  
31 PURPOSES OF TITLE 14 OF THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE.

32 (B) ~~(1) A CAUSE OF ACTION MAY NOT ARISE AGAINST ANY PHYSICIAN~~  
33 ~~OR NURSE PRACTITIONER FOR ANY ACT OR OMISSION WHEN THE PHYSICIAN OR~~  
34 ~~NURSE PRACTITIONER IN GOOD FAITH PRESCRIBES, TO AN INDIVIDUAL~~

1 ~~CERTIFIED UNDER § 13-3106 OF THIS SUBTITLE, NALOXONE AND THE~~  
2 ~~NECESSARY SUPPLIES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF NALOXONE.~~

3 ~~(2) A PHYSICIAN OR NURSE PRACTITIONER MAY NOT BE HELD~~  
4 ~~CIVILLY OR CRIMINALLY LIABLE FOR ACTIONS AUTHORIZED BY THIS SUBTITLE.~~

5 ~~(C) THIS SECTION DOES NOT AFFECT, AND MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO~~  
6 ~~AFFECT, ANY IMMUNITIES FROM CIVIL LIABILITY OR DEFENSES ESTABLISHED~~  
7 ~~BY ANY OTHER PROVISION OF STATE LAW OR BY COMMON LAW TO WHICH A~~  
8 ~~VOLUNTEER, PHYSICIAN, OR NURSE PRACTITIONER MAY BE ENTITLED.~~

9 ~~13-3110.~~

10 ~~(A) THIS SUBTITLE MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO:~~

11 ~~(1) CREATE A DUTY ON ANY INDIVIDUAL TO OBTAIN A~~  
12 ~~CERTIFICATE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, AND AN INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT BE HELD~~  
13 ~~CIVILLY LIABLE FOR FAILING TO OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE;~~  
14 ~~OR~~

15 ~~(2) CREATE A DUTY ON A CERTIFICATE HOLDER TO ADMINISTER~~  
16 ~~NALOXONE TO AN INDIVIDUAL EXPERIENCING, OR BELIEVED BY THE~~  
17 ~~CERTIFICATE HOLDER TO BE EXPERIENCING, AN OPIOID OVERDOSE.~~

18 ~~(B) AN INDIVIDUAL MAY NOT BE HELD CIVILLY LIABLE IN ANY ACTION~~  
19 ~~ARISING FROM OR IN CONNECTION WITH THE ADMINISTRATION OF NALOXONE~~  
20 ~~BY THE INDIVIDUAL SOLELY BECAUSE THE INDIVIDUAL DID NOT POSSESS A~~  
21 ~~CERTIFICATE ISSUED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE~~ A PHYSICIAN WHO PRESCRIBES OR  
22 DISPENSES NALOXONE TO A CERTIFICATE HOLDER IN A MANNER CONSISTENT  
23 WITH THE PROTOCOL ESTABLISHED BY THE AUTHORIZED PRIVATE OR PUBLIC  
24 ENTITY MAY NOT BE SUBJECT TO ANY DISCIPLINARY OR OTHER ACTION UNDER  
25 TITLE 14 OF THE HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE FOR THE ACT OF  
26 PRESCRIBING OR DISPENSING NALOXONE TO THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER.

27 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect  
28 October 1, 2013.