

HOUSE BILL 222

F1, F2

6lr0685

HB 852/25 – W&M & APP

(PRE-FILED)

By: **Delegate Vogel**

Requested: August 13, 2025

Introduced and read first time: January 14, 2026

Assigned to: Ways and Means and Appropriations

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 4, 2026

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 ~~Education~~ **Educational Institutions County Boards of Education – Opioid**
3 **Overdose-Reversing Medications – Policy Requirements**
4 **(Naloxone Access Act)**

5 FOR the purpose of ~~requiring the State Board of Education to update a certain drug~~
6 ~~addiction and prevention education program to include information on the~~
7 ~~mitigating effects of naloxone or other opioid overdose reversing medication;~~
8 requiring each county board of education ~~and certain institutions of higher education~~
9 to update certain policies to include information on authorized possession of naloxone
10 or other opioid overdose-reversing medication by certain ~~individuals~~ high school
11 students and immunity from liability; altering the list of individuals who may
12 administer certain medication under a certain policy; and generally relating to
13 programs and policies on naloxone and other opioid overdose-reversing medication
14 by ~~educational institutions~~ county boards of education.

15 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
16 Article – Education
17 Section ~~7-411 and~~ 7-426.5
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2025 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

20 ~~BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,~~
21 ~~Article – Education~~
22 ~~Section 11-1201~~

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.



~~Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)~~

~~BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Education
Section 11-1202 through 11-1204
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2022 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)~~

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

Article – Education

~~7-411.~~

~~(a) The State Board shall develop and implement a program of drug addiction and prevention education in the public schools.~~

~~(b) (1) Except as provided in subsection (c)(2) of this section, this program shall be started before the sixth grade in each public school by teachers who are trained in the field of drug education.~~

~~(2) The State Board shall establish standards for determining how a teacher is considered to be “trained in the field of drug addiction and prevention education” for the purposes of this section.~~

~~(c) (1) The program shall include instruction related to heroin and opioid addiction and prevention, including information relating to the lethal effect of fentanyl AND THE MITIGATING EFFECTS OF NALOXONE OR OTHER OPIOID OVERDOSE REVERSING MEDICATIONS.~~

~~(2) The instruction required under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be:~~

~~(i) Delivered in grade bands as follows:~~

~~1. Third grade through fifth grade;~~

~~2. Sixth grade through eighth grade; and~~

~~3. Ninth grade through twelfth grade; and~~

~~(ii) A stand-alone unit in the program.~~

~~(d) This program shall be coordinated with other State agencies that are responsible for drug abuse education and control.~~

1 7-426.5.

2 (a) Each county board shall establish a policy in accordance with school health
 3 guidelines and State laws and regulations for public schools within its jurisdiction to
 4 authorize ~~the~~ school nurse, school health services personnel, ~~and~~ other school personnel;
 5 ~~AN INDIVIDUAL ACTING IN GOOD FAITH, AND A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT IN~~
 6 ACCORDANCE WITH SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION to administer naloxone or other
 7 **OPIOID** overdose-reversing medication to a student or other person ~~located on school~~
 8 ~~property~~ who is reasonably believed to be experiencing an opioid overdose.

9 (b) **(1)** The policy established under subsection (a) of this section shall include:

10 ~~(1)~~ **(I)** A provision requiring all public schools to obtain and store at the
 11 public school naloxone or other **OPIOID** overdose-reversing medication to be used in an
 12 emergency situation; ~~[and]~~

13 ~~(2)~~ **(II)** A requirement that each public school develop and implement a
 14 method for notifying the parents or guardians of students of the school's policy under this
 15 section at the beginning of each school year; **AND**

16 ~~(3)~~ **(III)** AUTHORIZATION FOR A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT, A MEMBER
 17 OF THE SCHOOL'S STAFF, OR ANY LAWFULLY PRESENT INDIVIDUAL AT THE SCHOOL
 18 OR A SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENT OR ACTIVITY WHO HAS RECEIVED TRAINING ON
 19 THE APPROPRIATE USE OF NALOXONE OR OTHER OPIOID OVERDOSE-REVERSING
 20 MEDICATION TO POSSESS NALOXONE OR OTHER OPIOID OVERDOSE-REVERSING
 21 MEDICATION.

22 **(2)** THE POLICY ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS
 23 SECTION MAY INCLUDE A RECORD OF STUDENTS WHO INTEND TO POSSESS
 24 NALOXONE OR OTHER OPIOID OVERDOSE-REVERSING MEDICATION AND WHETHER
 25 THOSE STUDENTS HAVE RECEIVED APPROPRIATE TRAINING.

26 (c) Except for any willful or grossly negligent act, any ~~of~~ the following individuals
 27 who respond; ~~INDIVIDUAL WHO RESPONDS~~ in good faith to the overdose emergency of a
 28 student, ~~A SCHOOL STAFF MEMBER, OR ANY OTHER INDIVIDUAL LAWFULLY PRESENT~~
 29 ~~AT A SCHOOL~~ in accordance with this section may not be held personally liable for any act
 30 or omission in the course of responding to the emergency;

31 (1) A school nurse;

32 (2) Other school health services personnel who are licensed or certified to
 33 practice a health occupation under the Health Occupations Article; ~~or~~

34 (3) Other school personnel; OR

1 **(4) A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT WHO HAS RECEIVED TRAINING ON THE**
2 **APPROPRIATE USE OF NALOXONE OR OTHER OPIOID OVERDOSE-REVERSING**
3 **MEDICATION**].

4 (d) (1) The county board or the local health department shall, by local
5 agreement:

6 (i) Hire a sufficient number of either county or regional community
7 action officials; or

8 (ii) Develop and implement a program that provides the community
9 relations and education functions required to be conducted by community action officials in
10 paragraph (2) of this subsection.

11 (2) A county or regional community action official shall:

12 (i) Coordinate school-based community forums, in cooperation with
13 local law enforcement officials; and

14 (ii) Conduct public relations efforts that include the following:

15 1. Parent contact;

16 2. Electronic media; and

17 3. Public service announcements.

18 [(e) (1) For fiscal year 2019, the Governor shall include an appropriation of at
19 least \$3,000,000 in general funds in the State budget for the Department for the purpose
20 of awarding grants to county boards to implement the policy and conduct the training
21 required under this section.

22 (2) The Department shall disburse the grants authorized under paragraph
23 (1) of this subsection based on the enrollment count of students in public schools in the
24 State for the prior fiscal year.]

25 [(f) (E) (1) On or before October 1 each year, each public school shall submit,
26 on the form that the Department requires, a report to the Department on each incident at
27 the school that required the use of naloxone or other **OPIOID** overdose-reversing
28 medication.

29 (2) The Department shall develop and disseminate a standard form to
30 report each incident requiring the use of naloxone or other **OPIOID** overdose-reversing
31 medication at a public school.

1 [(3) On or before December 1, 2018, December 1, 2019, and December 1,
2 2020, the Department shall report the information provided under paragraph (1) of this
3 subsection to the General Assembly in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government
4 Article.]

5 ~~11-1201.~~

6 ~~(a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, this subtitle applies only
7 to institutions of higher education in the State that receive operating or capital funding
8 from the State.~~

9 ~~(b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, this subtitle does
10 not apply to:~~

11 ~~(i) The University of Maryland Global Campus;~~

12 ~~(ii) The University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science;~~

13 ~~or~~

14 ~~(iii) An off-campus nonresidential location of an institution of higher
15 education.~~

16 ~~(2) Each institution described under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall
17 provide all students with resources that alert and educate the students regarding heroin
18 and opioid addiction and prevention.~~

19 ~~11-1202.~~

20 ~~(a) Each institution of higher education shall establish a policy that addresses
21 heroin and opioid addiction and prevention.~~

22 ~~(b) [The] SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE policy
23 established under this subtitle shall require each institution to:~~

24 ~~(1) Require incoming full-time students to participate in an in-person
25 heroin and opioid addiction and prevention awareness training, unless in-person training
26 is impracticable, then to participate in an electronic heroin and opioid addiction and
27 prevention awareness training;~~

28 ~~(2) Provide incoming part-time students with resources that alert and
29 educate the students regarding heroin and opioid addiction and prevention; and~~

30 ~~(3) Obtain and store at the institution naloxone or other OPIOID
31 overdose reversing medication to be used in an emergency situation.~~

~~(c) ANY TRAINING PROVIDED UNDER THE POLICY ESTABLISHED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION SHALL INCLUDE INFORMATION ON THE MITIGATING EFFECTS OF NALOXONE OR OTHER OPIOID OVERDOSE REVERSING MEDICATION.~~

~~11-1203.~~

~~(a) The policy established under this subtitle shall include:~~

~~(1) Training for campus police or other designated personnel on how to recognize the symptoms of an opioid overdose;~~

~~(2) Procedures for the administration of naloxone or other OPIOID overdose reversing medications; [and]~~

~~(3) The proper follow-up emergency procedures; AND~~

~~(4) AUTHORIZATION FOR A STUDENT, A MEMBER OF THE INSTITUTION'S STAFF, OR ANY LAWFULLY PRESENT INDIVIDUAL AT THE INSTITUTION TO POSSESS NALOXONE OR OTHER OPIOID OVERDOSE REVERSING MEDICATION.~~

~~(b) Except for any willful or grossly negligent act, [campus police or other designated personnel who have been trained under subsection (a)(1) of this section and who respond] ANY INDIVIDUAL WHO RESPONDS in good faith to the overdose emergency of a student, A STAFF MEMBER, OR ANY OTHER INDIVIDUAL LAWFULLY PRESENT in accordance with this section may not be held personally liable for any act or omission in the course of responding to the emergency.~~

~~11-1204.~~

~~[(a)] On or before October 1 each year, each institution of higher education shall report to the Commission on each incident at the institution that required the use of naloxone or other OPIOID overdose reversing medication.~~

~~[(b)] On or before December 1, 2018, December 1, 2019, and December 1, 2020, the Commission shall report the information provided under subsection (a) of this section to the General Assembly in accordance with § 2-1257 of the State Government Article.]~~

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2026.