



*Office of the President*

**Morgan State University Testimony  
Dr. David K. Wilson, President**

**House Bill 0852** (Delegate Joseph Vogel, *et al.*)  
Educational Institutions - Opioid Overdose-Reversing Medications - Policy  
Requirements (Protecting Our Kids from Overdoses Act)  
**February 25, 2025**

**Favorable**

Chair Atterbeary, Vice Chair Wilkins, and members of the Ways and Means Committee. We, at Morgan, thank you for the opportunity to share our position on Senate Bill 0511. The summary of the Bill states the following: *Requiring the State Board of Education, county boards of education, and institutions of higher education in the State to update certain drug addiction and prevention education programs to include information on the mitigating effects of naloxone or other opioid overdose-reversing medication, authorized possession for a student, a member of the school's staff, or any lawfully present individual at the school or a school-sponsored event or activity, and immunity from liability.*

Morgan State University is the Preeminent Public Urban Research University in Maryland, known for its excellence in teaching, intensive research, effective public service and community engagement. Morgan prepares diverse and competitive graduates for success in a global interdependent society.

The nationwide opioid crisis impacts does not discriminate against age, race or economic status. Its far-reaching impact continues to claim lives from overdoses. Staying informed with updated information on interventions and treatment options offers numerous benefits, to include improved decision-making, and increased awareness, knowledge and understanding. Morgan State University, through its Counseling Center, is actively involved in research and participates in studies to gain knowledge about reversing medications for opioid overdose. Plans are underway to develop programming on prevention education and provide resources specifically addresses the risk of opioid-related emergencies, including overdose, in their emergency operations plans (EOPs) by including a Threat- and Hazard-Specific Annex for drug overdose. For example, the University's Division of Student Affairs attended a Naxlozone/Narcan training by the

Bureau of Behavioral Health of Baltimore Department of Health. Individuals learned about opioids, recognizing, responding, and preventing an overdose, and how to administer intranasal Naloxone. Participants receive a completion certificate and a kit containing the medication to possibly save a life. After training, the Counseling Center will develop programming on prevention education and provide resources for the campus community.

This bill aligns with the University’s goal to promote education on certain drug addiction and prevention education programs to include information on the mitigating effects of opioid overdose-reversing medication, authorized possession for a student, a member of the school’s staff, or any lawfully present individual at the school or a school-sponsored event or activity, and immunity from liability.

**Morgan State University favors HB852.**

We appreciate the opportunity to work with the State in reaching a solution to support our students as we continue to grow the future and lead the world.

Sincerely,



David K. Wilson

President, Morgan State University