

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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132nd MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2025

Legislative Document

No. 710

H.P. 449

House of Representatives, February 25, 2025

**An Act to Expand Access and Reduce Barriers to Access to
Naloxone Hydrochloride and Other Opioid Overdose-reversing
Medications**

Submitted by the Department of Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 204.
Received by the Clerk of the House on February 20, 2025. Referred to the Committee on
Health and Human Services pursuant to Joint Rule 308.2 and ordered printed pursuant to Joint
Rule 401.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "R(t) B. Hunt".

ROBERT B. HUNT
Clerk

Presented by Representative ZAGER of Portland.

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

2 **Sec. 1. 22 MRSA §2353, sub-§4**, as amended by PL 2023, c. 71, §1 and c. 161, §3,
3 is further amended to read:

4 **4. Community-based drug overdose prevention programs; standing orders for**
5 **naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid overdose-reversing medication.** Acting
6 under standing orders from a licensed health care professional authorized by law to
7 prescribe naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid overdose-reversing medication, a
8 ~~public health~~ an agency that provides services to populations at high risk for a drug
9 overdose may establish an overdose prevention program in accordance with rules adopted
10 by the department and the provisions of this subsection.

11 A. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, an overdose prevention
12 program established under this subsection may store and dispense naloxone
13 hydrochloride or another opioid overdose-reversing medication without being subject
14 to the provisions of Title 32, chapter 117 as long as these activities are undertaken
15 without charge or compensation.

16 B. An overdose prevention program established under this subsection may distribute
17 unit-of-use packages of naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid overdose-reversing
18 medication and the medical supplies necessary to administer the naloxone
19 hydrochloride or another opioid overdose-reversing medication to a person ~~who has~~
20 ~~successfully completed training provided by the overdose prevention program that~~
21 ~~meets the protocols and criteria established by the department~~, so that the person may
22 possess and administer naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid overdose-reversing
23 medication to an individual who appears to be experiencing an opioid-related drug
24 overdose.

25 C. With the express consent of a municipality, an overdose prevention program
26 established under this subsection may provide and maintain naloxone hydrochloride or
27 another opioid overdose-reversing medication in a wall-mounted box or other visible
28 and accessible container, including, but not limited to, a vending machine, on publicly
29 accessible property of the municipality, including a municipal building, public
30 restroom, public library or public park or recreational facility, for use by a member of
31 the public in response to an opioid-related drug overdose.

32 The department shall adopt rules to implement this subsection. Rules adopted pursuant to
33 this subsection are routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter
34 2-A.

35 **Sec. 2. 22 MRSA §2353, sub-§4-A, ¶B**, as amended by PL 2023, c. 161, §3, is
36 repealed.

37 **Sec. 3. 22 MRSA §2353, sub-§4-A, ¶C**, as amended by PL 2023, c. 161, §3, is
38 further amended to read:

39 C. A licensed health care professional authorized by law to prescribe naloxone
40 hydrochloride or another opioid overdose-reversing medication shall distribute unit-
41 of-use packages of naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid overdose-reversing
42 medication and any medical supplies necessary to administer the naloxone
43 hydrochloride or another opioid overdose-reversing medication to a recovery residence

