



NEW JERSEY

Association of State Colleges and Universities

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NJASCU Testimony on Assembly Bill No. 4866

Opioid Antidotes and Emergency Administration of Opioid Antidote by Campus Medical Professional or Trained Employee

Assembly Higher Education Committee January 17, 2019

The New Jersey Association of State Colleges and Universities supports the intent of the legislation. However, we have concerns that the bill, as drafted, does not reflect the current status of campus response to overdose.

- ◆ Campus police and security are typically the first responders on the scene of an overdose, and they carry Naloxone, so police and security officers need to be acknowledged in the legislation.
- ◆ Naloxone is now available without a prescription. Anyone can carry Naloxone and choose to administer in an overdose situation, so the bill's restrictions on who can administer the antidote seem unnecessary. The legislation should encourage the ready availability of Naloxone for all employees to administer in an emergency.
- ◆ The requirement that the institution transport the overdose victim to the hospital after the administration of Naloxone is problematic. While we can offer transport, we cannot force a person to go to the hospital if they are conscious and refuse to go.

We appreciate the consideration of our comments and look forward to working with the sponsor and the committee on this important issue.

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