

SENATE BILL REPORT

2SHB 2112

As of February 12, 2024

Title: An act relating to opioid and fentanyl prevention education and awareness at institutions of higher education.

Brief Description: Concerning opioid and fentanyl prevention education and awareness at institutions of higher education.

Sponsors: House Committee on Appropriations (originally sponsored by Representatives Nance, Leavitt, Simmons, Reed, Ormsby, Callan, Rule, Orwall, Paul, Timmons, Lekanoff, Riccelli, Wylie, Reeves, Shavers, Pollet, Kloba and Davis).

Brief History: Passed House: 2/8/24, 94-3.

Committee Activity: Higher Education & Workforce Development: 2/14/24.

Brief Summary of Bill

- Requires institutions of higher education to provide opioid and fentanyl prevention education to all students.
- Specifies that naloxone and fentanyl test strips must be available at multiple locations on campus.
- Requires training and education for staff working in residence halls on the use of naloxone.

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Staff: Alicia Kinne-Clawson (786-7407)

Background: Opioids are a class of drugs that include heroine, fentanyl, oxycodone, hydrocodone, and morphine. Fentanyl is a potent synthetic opioid. Pharmaceutical fentanyl is approved by the Food and Drug Administration for use as an analgesic and anesthetic.

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Fentanyl can also be illegally made and distributed. It can be made in both a liquid and powder formula and can be mixed with other drugs. Fentanyl is not detectable through sight, taste, smell, or touch. However, fentanyl can be detected through the use of fentanyl test strips, which are small strips of paper that can detect fentanyl in different kind of drugs when dissolved in water.

Naloxone is a medication designed to rapidly reverse opioid overdose. It works by binding to opioid receptors in the body and can reverse and block the effects of opioids.

Washington's Good Samaritan Law limits liability for a person who renders emergency care at the scene of an emergency or who participates in transporting an injured person from the scene, without compensation or the expectation of compensation. The law excludes persons who render such care during the course of regular employment and who receive compensation or expect to receive compensation for such care.

Summary of Bill: Each public and private institution of higher education must provide opioid and fentanyl prevention education and awareness information to all students. Education may be offered in person or online and must include information about Washington's Good Samaritan Law.

Naloxone and fentanyl strips must be made available to students on campus in various accessible locations.

Institutions must provide staff working in residence halls training and education on administering naloxone.

For the purpose of assisting a person at risk of experiencing an opioid-related overdose, an institution may obtain and maintain opioid overdose reversal medication through a standing order prescribed and dispensed in accordance with an existing standing order.

Appropriation: The bill contains a null and void clause requiring specific funding be provided in an omnibus appropriation act.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Creates Committee/Commission/Task Force that includes Legislative members: No.

Effective Date: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.