

South Carolina General Assembly
124th Session, 2021-2022

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Bill 571

~~Indicates Matter Stricken~~

Indicates New Matter

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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT ADOPTED

March 9, 2021

S. 571

Introduced by Senators Shealy, Hutto and Senn

S. Printed 3/9/21--S.

Read the first time February 17, 2021.

A BILL

TO AMEND ARTICLE 3, CHAPTER 53, TITLE 44 OF THE 1976 CODE, RELATING TO NARCOTICS AND CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES, BY ADDING SECTION 44-53-361, TO REQUIRE PRESCRIBERS TO OFFER A PRESCRIPTION FOR NALOXONE TO A PATIENT UNDER CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Amend Title To Conform

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Article 3, Chapter 53, Title 44 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

"Section 44-53-361. (A) A prescriber shall:

(1) offer a prescription for naloxone hydrochloride or another drug approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for the complete or partial reversal of opioid depression to a patient if one or more of the following conditions are present:

(a) the prescription dosage for the patient is fifty or more morphine milligram equivalents of an opioid medication per day;

(b) an opioid medication is prescribed concurrently with a prescription for benzodiazepine; or

(c) the patient presents with an increased risk for overdose, including a patient with a history of overdose, a patient with a history of substance use disorder, or a patient at risk for returning to a high dose of opioid medication to which the patient is no longer tolerant;

(2) consistent with the existing standard of care, provide education to patients receiving a prescription pursuant to item (1) on overdose prevention and the use of naloxone hydrochloride or another drug approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for the complete or partial reversal of opioid depression; and

(3) consistent with the existing standard of care, provide education on overdose prevention and the use of naloxone hydrochloride or another drug approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for the complete or partial reversal of opioid depression to one or more persons designated by the patient or, for a patient who is a minor, to the patient's parent or guardian.

(B) A prescriber who fails to offer a prescription, as required by subsection (A)(1), or fails to provide the education and use information required by subsections (A)(2) and (3) may be subject to discipline by the appropriate licensing board. This section does not create a private right of action against a prescriber and does not limit a prescriber's liability for negligent failure to diagnose or treat a patient."

SECTION 2. This act takes effect ninety days after approval by the Governor.

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