

VOTE "YES" ON SB1828: THE OVERDOSE PREVENTION AND HARM REDUCTION ACT

Representative Deb Conroy (D-46)

Senator Melinda Bush (D-31)

THE PROBLEM

Despite great strides statewide to decrease the devastating toll of the opioid epidemic, accidental opioid-related overdose deaths are at an all-time high among Illinois residents. This crisis has not only resulted in dramatic loss of life, but has also led to an epidemic in the spread of infectious disease, particularly viral hepatitis. The state must do more to prevent overdose and the other harms associated with drug use and to support evidence-based treatment.

THE FACTS

- An estimated 3,000 fatal overdoses in Illinois for 2018
- ER visits for overdoses increased 66% in just one year from 2016 to 2017
- Nationwide, more people die of overdose than car crashes, homicide, or suicide
 - Fatal overdose rates are the highest in black communities
 - New Hepatitis C infections have more than tripled since 2010
 - Only 10% of those in need of treatment actually receive treatment
- Participants in syringe access programs are five times more likely to enter treatment and far less likely to die of an overdose

WHAT SB1828 DOES:

- Support overdose prevention efforts by better distributing naloxone (an overdose reversal medication), prioritizing high risk populations, promoting best practices, and improving the support the state provides to Drug Overdose Prevention Program (DOPP) organizations to save the most lives we can.
- Create the syringe access program under the Department of Public Health to provide a transparent process to establish a needle exchange program. These programs already operate in many parts of the state, providing overdose prevention education and other low-barrier services that reduce the harms associated with drug use. This new state program will help communities provide these services and help people using drugs build the trusted relationship with professionals that can lead them to recovery and a better life.
- Conduct an annual inventory of substance use treatment capacity, including access to medication assisted treatment, to develop a plan to meet the state's unmet treatment needs and track our progress.

SB1828 will save countless lives and implement proven public health interventions to combat the opioid epidemic

For information contact:

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Organizations who support SB1828, The Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction Act

- ACLU of Illinois
- Advocate Aurora Health
- AIDS Foundation of Chicago
- A Man In Recovery Foundation
- AMITA Health
- Brightside Clinic
- Buddy's Purpose
- Caring Ambassadors Program, Inc.
- Chicago Alliance Against Sexual Exploitation
- Chicago Coalition for the Homeless
- Chicago Department of Public Health
- Chicago Recovery Alliance
- Chicago Urban League
- Clergy for a New Drug Policy
- Community Behavioral Health Association
- Community Renewal Society
- Cook County Community Bond Fund
- Cook County Health
- Cook County Public Defender's Office
- Duney's Defense
- Dusty Roads Foundation
- Entourage Clinical Services, Inc.
- Hawthorn Woods Police Department
- Health & Medicine Policy Research Group
- Heartland Alliance
- Illinois Academy of Family Physicians
- Jolt Foundation
- Kane County Coroner's Office
- The Kennedy Forum
- Lake County Medical Providers
- Lake County Opioid Initiative
- Lake County Sheriff's Office
- Lake County State's Attorney's Office
- Legal Council for Health Justice
- Live4Lali
- LTM Foundation
- McRISC©, Inc.
- Men & Women in Prison Ministry
- ModernMed Recovery
- National Association of Social Workers, Illinois Chapter
- The Neuroscience Center
- Nicasa Behavioral Health Services
- Path To Recovery Foundation
- The Perfectly Flawed Foundation
- Safer Foundation
- Sargent Shriver National Center on P
- Students for Sensible Drug Policy
- TASC (Treatment Alternative for Safer Communities)
- Thresholds
- Transformation Behavioral Health Associates LLC
- Warp Corps LLC