



TRANSFORMING OHIO FOR JOBS + GROWTH

2016 MID-BIENNIUM REVIEW

THE OPIATE MBR: WHAT THEY ARE SAYING

Ohio State Medical Association: “Senate Bill 319 is one more step in the right direction as we continue our efforts to address prescription drug abuse and misuse in Ohio. With further regulatory oversight of the dispensing of medications at the pharmacy level, SB 319 will help prevent medications from being diverted, thereby helping prevent further opportunities for the misuse of legitimate prescriptions. SB 319 would also make changes regarding the access and administration of naloxone, making this life-saving antidote to opioid overdose more available to individuals who are at risk of overdose or who are likely to come into contact with an individual at risk. The OSMA appreciates the opportunity to be a meaningful partner with the Ohio General Assembly and the Kasich Administration in our collective efforts to help end opioid misuse and abuse in Ohio.”

Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities: “We applaud the Ohio General Assembly and the Administration for the passage of the Opiate MBR (Senate Bill 319) and the continued emphasis on fighting Ohio’s opiate epidemic. By working to expand access to naloxone, ensuring the availability of quality treatment services and recovery supports, and working to prevent the misuse and abuse of prescription medicines, Ohio continues to make progress to address issues related to opiate abuse. Collectively, we have much more work to do and these efforts, in collaboration with the myriad of prevention, treatment, and recovery activities taking place in communities throughout Ohio, will help us all as we work together to address substance abuse and addiction in our state. We know that treatment works and people recover and we must continue working on all fronts to make recovery a reality for all Ohioans.”

Ohio Council of Behavioral Health & Family Services Providers: “We are grateful to Governor Kasich and the Ohio General Assembly for their continued efforts to create an environment that supports the prevention, treatment, and recovery from addiction. The passage of Senate Bill 319 expands access to overdose reversal drugs, improves prescribing practices, and increases access to counseling and medications for underserved communities and pregnant women throughout Ohio. We are in a time of unprecedented suffering and death from addiction, and the message heard today is that Ohio’s government stands by providers in the long haul to give Ohioans every opportunity to live free from dangerous and deadly alcohol and drug use.”

Ohio Community Corrections Association: “Thanks to the joint leadership of Governor Kasich, Director Plouck, Senator Eklund and the Pharmacy Board, we are moving in the right direction in assisting Ohio citizens including those in community corrections to prevent opiate overdose deaths. The changes in Senate Bill 319 will allow licensed residential facilities to obtain Naloxone for storage and use at each locale by trained staff as a supplemental part of the facility first aid kit. We are grateful to the general assembly for their leadership and investment of resources in this very important issue.”

Ohio Dental Association: “Because of the steps being taken by Ohio’s policymakers and interested parties, including prescribers, real progress is being made in addressing the drug abuse and addiction crisis in Ohio. Passage of Senate Bill 319 continues that progress by making significant reforms to Ohio’s laws, including provisions to ensure access to appropriate treatment and to prevent misuse and abuse of prescription medicines. The Ohio Dental Association

appreciates the efforts of Governor Kasich and the members of the Ohio General Assembly in addressing these important issues.”

Coalition on Homelessness & Housing in Ohio: “COHHIO is pleased to see Ohio take additional steps to address the opiate epidemic through the passage of Senate Bill 319 which builds on other progress to date. We are particularly supportive of the provisions allowing for the life-saving overdose antidote naloxone to be more accessible including the authority to keep it on hand in a variety of public facilities including half-way houses and projects serving homeless people. This one measure will prevent many unnecessary deaths as soon as it is implemented and the appropriate staff are trained.”

Ernie Boyd, Executive Director, Ohio Pharmacists Association: “Over the years, we have learned that in order to turn the back the tide of drug abuse in Ohio communities, there must be a greater focus on reasonable restrictions on drugs with high abuse potential, better tracking of controlled substances, greater accountability within the health care professions, increased access to life-saving medications, and enhanced treatment options for patients. We are pleased to see that these comprehensive approaches touch all of those bases, without creating excessive burdens on the provider communities.”

Christopher Jerry, President & CEO, The Emily Jerry Foundation: “Senate Bill 319 greatly enhances the Board of Pharmacy’s oversight of pharmacy technicians. This is an important step towards improving patient safety and reducing diversion at the pharmacy. I applaud the work of the Governor and the Board of Pharmacy in their efforts to safeguard the citizens of Ohio.”

Phil Nunes, Chief Programs Officer, Alvis, Inc.: “The passage of Senate Bill 319 means facilities like Alvis will have improved access to naloxone and will be equipped to effectively respond to an overdose emergency. Expanding access to naloxone in settings that serve at-risk individuals has the potential to save untold lives. I commend the work of Governor John Kasich, Senator John Eklund, the State of Ohio Pharmacy Board and the Ohio General Assembly for increasing the availability of this important medication.”

John L. Edwards, Sr., Executive Director, Urban Minority Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Outreach Program of Lucas County: “The MBR reforms will continue to build upon progress that our organization, and similar organizations throughout the state of Ohio, have experienced to date. In particular, the provisions of Senate Bill 319 that pertain to women’s treatment and child protection services will produce meaningful advances for the women and children served by our treatment agency.”

Larry Moliterno, President, Ohio Alliance of Recovery Providers: “The Ohio Alliance of Recovery Providers applauds the Kasich Administration and General Assembly for their hard work in the passage of Senate Bill 319. This legislation gives families, providers and communities more tools to help treat addiction and stop overdose deaths by increasing access to Naloxone and ensuring high quality standards for all treatment providers. We look forward to a continued partnership with Governor Kasich, the Ohio Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Ohio General Assembly in the ongoing fight to address the opiate epidemic in Ohio.”

Jennifer Moses, CEO, Zepf Center: “These reforms targeting opiate addiction demonstrate the Administration’s dedication to fighting this epidemic and will improve the treatment system as a whole.”

