Senate Bill 459 – The Good Samaritan Drug Overdose Act

Passed in 2015

Primary sponsor: Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

A few of the presenters/supporters: Tracey D. Green, M.D. – Chief Medical Officer, Division of Public and Behavioral Health, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services), Karla D. Wagner, Ph.D – University of Nevada, Reno, Dorothy Nash Holmes - Reno Judge BDR40-214

Minutes from the first time this bill was heard April 1st, 2015

Original intent of bill:

- To offer protections of those trying to help someone from an overdose
- Allowing "friends/family" to carry naloxone
- Having physicians check the prescription drug monitoring program
- Public health orientation

Provisions:

- Encouraged citizens and healthcare professionals to seek or provide overdose reversal medication and emergency medical assistance to anyone who appears to be experiencing a drug or alcohol overdose
 - This bill authorized certain health care providers to prescribe and dispense an opioid antagonist
 - Allows law enforcement and emergency medical personnel to carry and administer naloxone, see this <u>link</u> with Major Policy Provisions
- Provided immunity from civil and criminal liability and professional discipline for helping someone experiencing an overdose under certain actions
- Required providers to use the prescription drug monitoring program (PDMP) before prescribing certain controlled substances to patients for the first time