

**SB 450 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY**

**House Committee On Behavioral Health and Health Care**

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**Meeting Dates:** 4/19, 4/24

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:**

Exempts from labeling requirements opioid overdose reversal nasal spray when dispensed by physician or physician assistant at practice location.

*FISCAL: Has minimal fiscal impact*

*REVENUE: No revenue impact*

*SENATE VOTE: Ayes, 29; Excused, 1*

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

**EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:**

No amendment.

**BACKGROUND:**

Opioids are a broad group of drugs that target the body's opioid receptors to provide relief from pain. Opioid drugs can be derived from the poppy plant (e.g., morphine) or synthesized in a laboratory (e.g., fentanyl). According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), since 1999 over 932,000 people have died from a drug overdose with over 75 percent of those deaths involving an opioid. This has resulted in a federal public health emergency declaration that has remained in place since October 2017. In Oregon, opioid overdose deaths have steadily increased in recent years, with 280 deaths in 2019, 472 deaths in 2020, and 745 deaths in 2021.

Opioid antagonist medications, such as naloxone, can reverse opioid overdoses. According to the CDC, only one naloxone prescription is dispensed for every 70 high-dose opioid prescriptions, with rural counties three times more likely to be ranked as low dispensing of naloxone as metropolitan areas.

Senate Bill 450 would exempt opioid overdose reversal nasal sprays from drug labeling requirements when dispensed by a physician or physician assistant at their practice location.