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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Jim Green To: House Committee on Behavioral Health and HealthcareFrom: Richard Donovan, Legislative Services SpecialistRe: House Bill 2395-2Date: January 29, 2023

Chair Nosse, Vice Chairs Goodwin and Nelson, members of the committee:

On behalf of the OSBA membership, including 197 school districts and 19 Education Service Districts, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in support of House Bill 2395, specifically the portions of -2 amendments that pertain to school districts.

In recent years, opioid addiction overdose has become one of the preeminent challenges facing society <u>across the United States of America</u>. No area of life, public or private, is safe from the dangers of opioid addiction and abuse disorder. Wherever people may go, some of those people carry with them the burden of opioid abuse.

Schools and school district properties are a community space by design. Students attend school and learn. Members of the community use playgrounds and facilities in the evenings and weekends. Spectators come to watch athletic competitions. And sometimes, when schools welcome in the community, some members of the community carry with them the burden of opioid abuse.

The portions of -2 amendments that pertain to schools would make it clear that, in the circumstance of an opioid overdose or suspected overdose, any person in a school should administer an anti-overdose medication, such as naloxone, without hesitation. When an overdose is occurring, the best treatment is to administer anti-overdose drugs immediately.

Please support the portions of the -2 amendments to HB 2395 that pertain to schools.