

SB 493 STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Early Childhood and Behavioral Health

Prepared By: Katie Hart, LPRO Analyst

Meeting Dates: 1/30

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure allows emergency responders to draw up and give one or more doses of a fast-acting medicine to reverse an opioid overdose from a vial that has multiple doses. Declares an emergency, effective on passage.

Fiscal impact: *May have fiscal impact, but no statement yet issued*

Revenue impact: *May have revenue impact, but no statement yet issued*

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). In Oregon, unintentional opioid overdose deaths have steadily increased in recent years, with 738 deaths in 2021, 956 deaths in 2022, and 1416 deaths in 2023 ([Oregon Health Authority, 2024](#)).

Short-acting opioid antagonist medications, such as naloxone, can reverse opioid overdoses. In nearly three quarters of cases, short-acting opioid antagonists are not administered to someone experiencing an opioid overdose prior to emergency medical services arrival ([NEMESIS, 2025](#)). [ORS 689.681](#) permits the distribution of naloxone kits and administration of these kits to specified professions or other people who work with individuals who have experienced an opiate overdose.

Senate Bill 293 allows emergency medical personnel to draw up and administer one or more doses of short-acting opioid antagonists out of a vial that contains multiple doses of the medication.