





## Testimony to the House Committee on Health and Human Services In Support of HB2159

February 10, 2025

Chairman Carpenter and Committee Members:

Our associations are in support of HB2159 relating to making what is commonly known as Narcan available to more law enforcement agencies.

Section 1 of the bill will help our agencies significantly in obtaining Narcan for officers to carry with them. Any financial assistance we can get to purchase Narcan, especially for our small agencies, is appreciated.

Section 2 of the bill is a request we made to be removed from the requirements of 65-16,127. Those requirements were put in place to allow us to obtain Narcan for our officers to carry when it was only available by prescription. Since it is now available over the counter those policies are no longer necessary. The amendment found on page 2 lines 8-18 removes us from these requirements. We are requesting to retain the liability protections that exist on page 4 lines 15-20. To do that, the same provision for law enforcement is transferred to page 4 lines 21-27.

The requirement in that statute that we most need to have removed due to the unnecessary obstacle and cost it presents is on page 3, lines 23-24. That provision requires us to have a medical director if we issue Narcan to our officers. That is no longer necessary since a prescription is not required. We believe that many of our small agencies do not issue Narcan due to this cost, and perhaps the lack of availability of a physician willing to do it.

We encourage you to move HB2159 forward favorably.

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