



# HOUSE BILL 93: Req. Opioid Antagonist Ed. w/Opioid Scripts.

2021-2022 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House	<b>Date:</b>	April 27, 2021
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Reps. Sasser, Moffitt, Adcock	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Jason Moran-Bates Staff Attorney
<b>Analysis of:</b>	Third Edition		

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 93 would require most healthcare providers to provide education to patients about opioid antagonists when they prescribe Schedule II controlled substances. The education would be followed by an offer to prescribe an opioid antagonist. Pharmacists dispensing Schedule II controlled substances would be required to offer a prescription for an opioid antagonist under the statewide standing order.*

**CURRENT LAW:** Under to current law, the State Health Director has prescribed an opioid antagonist by means of a statewide standing order.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** The bill would require practitioners who prescribe Schedule II controlled substances to provide patients with education on overdose prevention and opioid antagonists approved by the Food and Drug Administration if any of the following apply:

- The dosage of the prescription for the Schedule II controlled substance is 50 or more morphine milligram equivalents per day.
- A benzodiazepine is concurrently prescribed with the Schedule II controlled substance.
- The patient presents with an increased risk of overdose

This education must be provided to the patient receiving the prescription for the controlled substance, or the patient's parents if the patient is a minor. After providing the education, practitioners must offer the patient a prescription for an opioid antagonist.

Pharmacists dispensing prescriptions for Schedule II controlled substances must ask the recipients if they have a prescription for an opioid antagonist, advise the recipients about the statewide standing order, and offer to dispense the opioid antagonist. Within 72 hours of dispensing the Schedule II controlled substance, the pharmacist must communicate the details of that process back to the prescriber

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This bill would be effective October 1, 2021.

**BACKGROUND:** S.L. 2016-17 amended G.S. 90-12.7 to permit the State Health Director to issue a statewide standing order prescribing an opioid antagonist. The standing order allowed under G.S. 90-12.7 was issued March 12, 2018, and currently remains in effect. The order permits pharmacists to dispense an opioid antagonist to individuals at risk of overdosing, family members of individuals at risk of overdosing, or individuals who are in a position to assist a person at risk of overdosing.

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