

# Resolution 2022-12-05-01

## Supporting Maine EMS's Naloxone Leave-Behind Program

**Whereas**, over 60% of EMS agencies in the State of Maine are fire-based;

**Whereas**, the State of Maine continues to see a rise in the count of opioid overdose fatalities throughout the state;

**Whereas**, the State of Maine continues to see a rise in the number of EMS activations associated with persons experiencing an opioid overdose and/or utilization of naloxone;

**Whereas**, the 130<sup>th</sup> Maine Legislature passed LD 1333 and it was signed into law by the Maine Governor in 2021. This legislation authorizes EMS clinicians throughout the State of Maine to dispense naloxone to patients, their family, and their friends in alignment with protocols adopted by Maine EMS;

**Whereas**, Maine EMS has developed and deployed a free, online asynchronous training available via the Maine EMS Education (MEMSEd) system;

**Whereas**, Maine EMS's Medical Direction and Practices Board (MDPB) has adopted a protocol to guide EMS clinicians in the dispensation of naloxone when treating a patient experiencing an opioid overdose;

**Whereas**, Maine EMS has secured multiple sources of funding to ensure that no EMS agency participating in the Naloxone Leave-Behind Program will need to fiscally support the acquisition of leave-behind naloxone associated with this program; and

**Whereas**, contemporary research strongly supports the expansion of harm reduction strategies like Maine EMS's Naloxone Leave-Behind Program as an effective approach to help mitigate increased morbidity and mortality associated with opioid overdoses.

**Now, therefore be it resolved**, the Maine Fire Protection Services Commission strongly encourages all EMS agencies, especially those that are associated with fire departments, to support and adopt the Maine EMS Naloxone Leave-Behind Program as an effective harm reduction strategy for persons experiencing opioid use disorder throughout the State of Maine.

Adopted December 5, 2022.



Dan Brooks  
Chairperson, Maine Fire Protection Services Commission

**Intended Distribution:** Maine Fire-Based EMS Agencies