

## **Opioid and Other Substance Use Disorders Study Committee Working Group - Harm Reduction/Overdose Prevention Center**

Legislators in Attendance: Rep. deGruy Kennedy (chair), Rep. Epps, Sen. Priola

### **3:33 p.m. Opening Remarks**

Representative deGruy Kennedy opened up the meeting and explained the process of working groups.

### **3:35 p.m. Discussion on Harm Reduction and Overdose Prevention Centers (OPC) Bill Draft**

Presented on the potential bill ideas that have been submitted to the drafter and previously discussed by the full committee during public hearings.

#### **Overdose Prevention Center**

- Rhode Island OPC model, including some language on nuisance laws and clean air laws regarding the use of fentanyl in doors and keeping individuals safe.

Questions and discussion surrounded the costs associated with the policy, alternative funding sources, fiscal note timing, and considerations to explore a mobile OPC model.

#### **Harm Reduction Policies**

- Fentanyl Test Stripes - discussed expanding language as new drugs continue to come up.
- Clean Pipes - discussed expanding the ability to distribute clean pipes similar to needle exchange.
- Warrant Checks in Hospitals - discussed stakeholder feedback that this has been a deterrent to individuals seeking help.
- Naloxone - discussed ways to ensure OTC naloxone could be covered by insurance.
- Do Not Draft Policies - several items were discussed not to include in the bill draft because they may be budget items.

Additional questions and discussions included policy related to the responsibility for warrant checks in hospitals and the use by law enforcement in schools of Naloxone that has passed the expiration date.

## Opened For Public Input

- Lisa Raville - *Harm Reduction Action Center*, provided additional details around the warrant checks in health care settings.
- Michael Ruddock - *Adams County Public Health Department*, shared a comment around needing clean pipes.
- Brandon Arnold - *Colorado Association of Health Plans*, asked why Rhode Island was the model to be considered.
- Coreen Braden - *Young People in Recovery*, spoke to the benefits of bulk purchasing of naloxone.

4:23 p.m. Adjourned