



April 19, 2023

The Honorable Joe Patterson
State Assemblymember
1021 O Street, Suite 5610
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB-19 Pupil health: opioid antagonists
Position: **Support**
Location: Assembly Appropriations Committee – Set for hearing on April 26, 2023.

Dear Assemblymember Patterson,

On behalf of the California Association of School Business Officials (CASBO), representing over 24,000 school business leaders in K-14 education, we are pleased to support Assembly Bill 19. More than 770 Californians under age 24 died of fentanyl overdoses last year, a 21-fold increase since 2016. AB 19 will require each school to have no less than two doses of naloxone onsite to be available to aid those suffering from an opioid overdose.

CASBO supports student safety, and AB 19 ensures that California schools are prepared for the potential of an opioid overdose, which is becoming common as Fentanyl is more present than ever in our schools.

Some K-12 schools have opted to offer this inexpensive opioid antagonist medication, but most still do not provide Naloxone on campus. AB 19 would require K-12 schools to have naloxone as a life-saving measure on campus for students experiencing an opioid overdose. AB 19 would help immensely in the fight against the fentanyl epidemic that is affecting our youth.

CASBO thanks you for bringing this bill forward. Should you have any questions, please contact Mishaal Gill at mgill@casbo.org

Sincerely,

Mishaal Gill
Director of Policy and Advocacy
California Association of School Business Officials

California Association of School Business Officials
1001 K Street, 5th Floor | Sacramento, California 95814
Phone Number: (916) 504-2250 | www.casbo.org