



VERMONT LEGISLATIVE
Joint Fiscal Office

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Fiscal Note

Updated 3/30/22

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H.728 – An act relating to opioid overdose response services

As passed by the Senate

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/Documents/2022/Docs/BILLS/H-0728/H-0728%20As%20Passed%20by%20the%20House%20Unofficial.pdf>

Bill Summary

The bill includes several initiatives related to treatment and recovery from opioid use disorder: The bill proposes to: (1) expand locations in which an organized community-based needle exchange program can operate; (2) establish an Overdose Prevention Site Working Group; and (3) appropriate funds for three pilot programs specific to mobile MAT, supports for justice-involved individuals, and overdose emergency response support. The bill appropriates:

- \$450,000 General Fund for grants for mobile MAT services.
- \$250,000 General Fund for grants for providing substance use treatment counseling and/or substance use recovery support for justice involved Vermonters.
- \$180,000 General Fund for grants to provide or facilitate connections to substance use treatment, recovery, and harm reduction services at the time of emergency response to overdose.

Sec. 8 – Overdose Prevention Site Working Group

Sec. 8 would create an Overdose Prevention Working Group to identify the feasibility and liability of implementing overdose prevention sites in Vermont. The group would have 11 members, 6 of whom are anticipated to be entitled to per diem compensation and reimbursement of expenses as permitted under [32 V.S.A. § 1010](#) for no more than 8 meetings.¹ Assuming these 6 members attend 8 meetings, the fiscal impact would be approximately \$6,000. This amount is nominal and can be absorbed within the Department of Health's budget. As such, **no appropriation would be required.**

Sec. 9 – Medicaid-Assisted Treatment Pilot Program

Sec. 9 would appropriate **\$450,000** from the General Fund to the Department of Health's Division of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs (ADAP) in FY 2023 for the purpose of awarding one or more grants for mobile MAT services to currently underserved areas of the state.

¹ <https://legislature.vermont.gov/statutes/section/32/015/01010>

Sec. 10 – Substance Use Support for Justice Involved Vermonters Pilot Program

Sec. 10 would appropriate \$250,000 from the General Fund to ADAP to award one or more grants to organization(s) providing substance use treatment counseling or substance use recovery support, or both, for individuals within and transitioning out of the criminal justice system.

Sec. 11 – Overdose Emergency Response Support Pilot Program

Sec. 11 would appropriate \$180,000 from the General Fund to ADAP to award four equal grants to organizations to provide or facilitate connections to substance use treatment, recovery, and harm reduction services at the time of emergency response to overdose.

Fiscal Summary

APPROPRIATIONS - One Time

9	Mobile MAT Services Grants	General Fund	\$450,000	Appropriated to ADAP
10	Substance Use Treatment Counseling and Recovery Support	General Fund	\$250,000	Appropriated to ADAP
11	Overdose Emergency Response Grants	General Fund	\$180,000	Appropriated to ADAP
TOTAL APPROPRIATION = \$880,000				