

1 **CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE ABUSE AMENDMENTS**

2 2019 GENERAL SESSION

3 STATE OF UTAH

4 **Chief Sponsor: Steve Eliason**

5 Senate Sponsor: Evan J. Vickers

7 **LONG TITLE**

8 **General Description:**

9 This bill amends the Utah Controlled Substances Act.

10 **Highlighted Provisions:**

11 This bill:

12 ▶ requires a prescriber to discuss the risks of using an opiate with a patient or the
13 patient's guardian before issuing an initial opiate prescription.

14 **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

15 None

16 **Other Special Clauses:**

17 None

18 **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

19 ENACTS:

20 **58-37-19**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

22 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

23 Section 1. Section **58-37-19** is enacted to read:

24 **58-37-19. Opiate prescription consultation.**

25 (1) As used in this section:

26 (a) "Hospice" means the same as that term is defined in Section [26-21-2](#).

27 (b) "Initial opiate prescription" means a prescription for an opiate to a patient who:



- 28 (i) has never previously been issued a prescription for an opiate; or
- 29 (ii) was previously issued a prescription for an opiate, but the date on which the current
- 30 prescription is being issued is more than one year after the date on which an opiate was
- 31 previously prescribed or administered to the patient.
- 32 (c) "Prescriber" means an individual authorized to prescribe a controlled substance
- 33 under this chapter.
- 34 (2) Except as provided in Subsection (3), a prescriber may not issue an initial opiate
- 35 prescription without discussing with the patient, or the patient's parent or guardian if the patient
- 36 is under 18 years of age and is not an emancipated minor:
- 37 (a) the risks of addiction and overdose associated with opiate drugs;
- 38 (b) the dangers of taking opiates with alcohol, benzodiazepines, and other central
- 39 nervous system depressants;
- 40 (c) the reasons why the prescription is necessary;
- 41 (d) alternative treatments that may be available; and
- 42 (e) other risks associated with the use of the drugs being prescribed.
- 43 (3) This section does not apply to a prescription for:
- 44 (a) a patient who is currently in active treatment for cancer;
- 45 (b) a patient who is receiving hospice care from a licensed hospice; or
- 46 (c) a medication that is being prescribed to a patient for the treatment of the patient's
- 47 substance abuse or opiate dependence.