OVERDOSE HARM REDUCTION WORKING GROUP

2022 GENERAL SESSION
STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Jennifer Dailey-Provost
Senate Sponsor: ____________

LONG TITLE

General Description:
This bill creates a working group to study harm reduction oriented strategies to reduce overdose injuries and deaths in the state.

Highlighted Provisions:
This bill:
- directs the Utah Substance Abuse Use and Mental Health Advisory Council to convene a working group to study harm reduction oriented strategies to reduce overdose injuries and deaths;
- describes the purpose and membership of the working group; and
- creates a reporting requirement and a sunset date.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:
None

Other Special Clauses:
None

Utah Code Sections Affected:
AMENDS:
63I-2-263, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, First Special Session, Chapter 4

ENACTS:
63M-7-303.1, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
Section 1. Section 63I-2-263 is amended to read:

63I-2-263. Repeal dates, Title 63A to Title 63N.

[(1) Section 63A-3-111 is repealed June 30, 2021.]
[(2) Title 63C, Chapter 19, Higher Education Strategic Planning Commission is repealed July 1, 2021.]
[(3)] (1) Title 63C, Chapter 22, Digital Wellness, Citizenship, and Safe Technology Commission is repealed July 1, 2023.
[(4)] (2) Section 63G-1-502 is repealed July 1, 2022.
[(5)] (3) The following sections regarding the World War II Memorial Commission are repealed on July 1, 2022:
(a) Section 63G-1-801;
(b) Section 63G-1-802;
(c) Section 63G-1-803; and
(d) Section 63G-1-804.
[(6)] (4) Section 63H-7a-303 is repealed July 1, 2024.
[(7)] (5) Subsection 63J-1-206(3)(c), relating to coronavirus, is repealed July 1, 2021.
[(8)] (6) Sections 63M-7-213 and 63M-7-213.5 are repealed on January 1, 2023.
[(9)] (7) Section 63M-7-303.1 is repealed on January 1, 2023.
[(10)] (8) Title 63N, Chapter 13, Part 3, Facilitating Public-private Partnerships Act, is repealed January 1, 2024.
[(11)] (9) Title 63N, Chapter 15, COVID-19 Economic Recovery Programs, is repealed December 31, 2021.

Section 2. Section 63M-7-303.1 is enacted to read:

63M-7-303.1. Working group to study strategies for overdose harm reduction.

(1) The council shall convene a working group to study harm reduction oriented strategies to address overdose injuries and deaths, including the feasibility of establishing:
(a) a pilot program for overdose prevention;
(b) a mobile unit to increase access to certain medication-assisted therapies for vulnerable or marginalized areas and populations; and
(c) other evidence-based harm reduction strategies.
(2) The working group convened under Subsection (1) shall include representation from at least the following groups:

(a) family members impacted by drug overdose;
(b) recovery community advocates;
(c) a local city or county elected official;
(d) a member of law enforcement;
(e) a local member of a fire department;
(f) a city or county prosecutor;
(g) a local treatment provider;
(h) a community-based prevention advocate;
(i) a member from the council;
(j) a representative from the Utah Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health Department of Health and Human Services who specializes in substance use disorder and mental health; and
(k) a representative of a local health department; and
(l) other community members as needed.

(3) On or before November 16, 2022, the working group convened under Subsection (1) shall report to the Health and Human Services Interim Committee strategies and proposals for legislative changes to reduce overdose injuries and deaths through harm reduction oriented strategies, including the feasibility of establishing:

(a) a pilot program for overdose prevention;
(b) a mobile unit to increase access to certain medication-assisted therapies for vulnerable or marginalized areas and populations; and
(c) other evidence-based harm reduction strategies.