



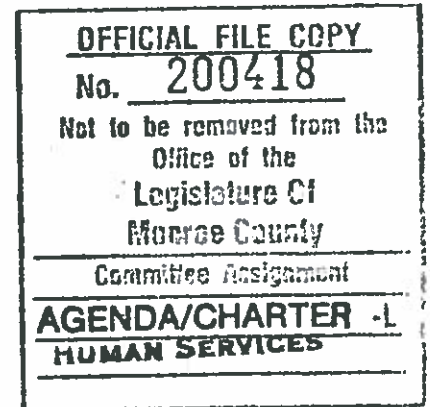
# Monroe County Legislature

**JACKIE SMITH**  
LEGISLATOR - DISTRICT 2

**JUSTIN WILCOX**  
LEGISLATOR - DISTRICT 14

December 7, 2020

To The Honorable  
Monroe County Legislature  
407 County Office Building  
Rochester, New York 14614



Subject: Enacting a Local Law Requiring Pharmacies to Provide Notice on the Availability of Naloxone

Honorable Legislators:

This legislation is being resubmitted with bipartisan sponsorship after additional discussion and collaboration. In 2019, Monroe County lost 127 residents to an opioid overdose. While our community has made significant efforts to support residents battling opioid addiction, we must continue to remove barriers to treatment and end the stigma associated with this public health crisis.

Opioid antagonists, such as naloxone/Narcan, are effective in neutralizing the effects of an opioid overdose. According to one report on naloxone dosages given by New York State law enforcement officers from 2014 to 2017, 88% of individuals who received naloxone during an opioid overdose survived. Over 100 pharmacies in Monroe County provide this life-saving medicine without a prescription through standing orders pursuant to New York State Public Health Law. It is crucially important that we ensure that the public is made aware that this resource is available to them. Individuals that need or support those who need naloxone may not know this resource is available or may not want to inquire with a pharmacist due to perceived stigma associated with opioid use.

To promote the health and well-being of individuals residing in Monroe County, we propose that this Honorable Body adopt a local law requiring pharmacies in Monroe County that provide naloxone to alert the public that this medicine is available without a prescription. Rather than requiring individuals to request naloxone or other opioid antagonists, the proposed local law would require pharmacies to inform customers of the availability naloxone whenever they refill, renew, or first fill an opioid prescription for a customer. The legislation if enacted, would be known as "Maisie's Law" in honor of Maisie Gillan, an infant who tragically died of an accidental overdose in 2019.

**The specific legislative actions required are:**


1. Schedule and hold a public hearing on the proposed local law.
2. Adopt the attached Local Law entitled “Maisie’s Law” as written.

This local law will have no impact on the revenues or expenditures of the current Monroe County budget. The provisions of the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act shall be complied with prior to this Honorable Body undertaking, funding, or approving the action requested in this referral.

We recommend that this matter be referred to the appropriate committee(s) for favorable action by this Honorable Body.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jackie Smith  
Legislator – District 2

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Justin Wilcox  
Legislator – District 14

By Legislators \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_

Intro. No. \_\_\_\_

LOCAL LAW NO. \_\_ OF 2020

**ENACTING LOCAL LAW ENTITLED “PHARMACIES TO PROVIDE NOTICE ON THE AVAILABILITY OF NALOXONE”**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF MONROE, as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent. While our community has made significant efforts to support residents battling opioid addiction, we must continue to remove barriers to treatment and end the stigma associated with this public health crisis.

Opioid antagonists, such as naloxone/Narcan, are effective in neutralizing the effects of an opioid overdose. Over 100 pharmacies in Monroe County provide this life-saving medicine without a prescription through standing orders pursuant to New York State Public Health Law. It is the intent of this local law to ensure that the public is aware that this resource is available; promote the spread of information as to the causes, nature, and prevention of opioid use disorder; and preserve and improve public health.

Section 2. Definitions. The following terms used in this local law shall have the meanings indicated:

1. “Opioid” means an opiate as defined in section 3302 of the Public Health Law.
2. “Opioid antagonist” means a drug approved by the Food and Drug Administration, that, when administered, negates or neutralizes in whole or in part the pharmacological effects of an opioid in the body. An opioid antagonist is limited to naloxone or other medications approved by the New York State Department of Health for this purpose.
3. “Pharmacy” means a pharmacy registered in accordance with Article 137 of the New York State Education Law.
4. “Public Health Notice” means notice of the availability of an opioid antagonist at a particular pharmacy in a form provided by the Monroe County Department of Public Health.
5. “Standing order” means a non-patient specific prescription to dispense an opioid antagonist to a consumer.

Section 3. Pharmacies to Notify Customers of Availability of Opioid Antagonists with the Delivery of an Opioid.

1. All pharmacies within Monroe County that maintain a standing order must provide a Public Health Notice to customers to whom the pharmacy dispenses an opioid. Such Public Health Notices must be signed by the customer to acknowledge receipt prior to the dispensation of an opioid in accordance with Section 3(2), below.
2. Pharmacies within Monroe County that maintain a standing order must provide a Public Health Notice:
  - a. The first time a customer fills an opioid prescription at the pharmacy;
  - b. The first time a customer renews, refills, and/or fills a new prescription for an opioid after the effective date of this local law; or
  - c. Any time there is a change in a customer's prescription, including but not limited to dosage amount or frequency.
3. The provisions of this local law shall not limit the authority of a health care professional to prescribe, dispense or distribute, or of a pharmacist to dispense, an opioid antagonist under any other provision of local, state, or federal law.

Section 4. Severability. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or part of this law or the application thereof to any person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this law, or in its application to the person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance directly involved in the controversy in which such order or judgment shall be rendered.

Section 5. Effective Date. This local law shall take effect 90 days after it is filed with the Secretary of State in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Home Rule Law.

File No. 20-LL

ADOPTION: Date: \_\_\_\_\_, 2020

Vote:

ACTION BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_ VETOED: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

EFFECTIVE DATE OF LOCAL LAW: \_\_\_\_\_