



**For Immediate Release
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Rep. Fred Wood Introduces Legislation Clarifying Administration of Opioid Adversary, Naloxone – Public Would Have Easier Access

BOISE, Idaho – House Republican Caucus member, Representative Fred Wood, Chairman of the Health and Welfare Committee, will present House Bill 12 on the Floor today at 11am. The bill calls for clarification on language in past legislation regarding who can administer the opioid antagonist, Naloxone.

HB 12 more clearly states that anyone can administer the injection when someone is on the verge of an overdose and needs immediate help.

“This increases the ability to save a life,” said Rep. Wood, retired physician from Burley. “This simple legislative change will clarify all that.”

The Food and Drug Administration is in the review process to potentially convert Naloxone from a prescription drug to an over-the-counter-medication which would ultimately make this legislation void. Until then, Rep. Wood says we need to be certain that first responders and the public know they are within their legal right to get the medicine, carry the medicine and use the medicine in a crisis.

“We have an opioid problem here in Idaho. While we figure out a way to combat this growing addiction, we need to let our neighbors know that there is help at their fingertips if they have a loved one in need. This could be the first step to helping someone into recovery,” said Rep. Wood.

More information on HB 12 can be found at
<https://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/2019/legislation/H0012/>

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