

Wilmington, Delaware
April 7, 2016

#4193

Sponsors:

Council
Members
Williams
Dorsey Walker

WHEREAS, Delaware, like many other states, has witnessed a dramatic increase in the abuse of heroin and opioids in recent years, and as a result has experienced an increase in the number of patients overdosing on these substances; and

WHEREAS, medical professionals promote the use of the life-saving drug Naloxone – frequently referred to as Narcan – as an emergency medication administered to an individual suffering an overdose, and one that has repeatedly been shown to counteract the effects of an opioid-related overdose; and

WHEREAS, while Narcan has long been carried by paramedics and stocked in hospitals, an increasing number of law enforcement agencies across the country are beginning to train officers to carry the emergency medication; and

WHEREAS, police departments have reported tremendous success, with many officers deploying Narcan and saving patients in the initial days of carrying the medication; and

WHEREAS, a policy requiring police officers to carry Narcan while on duty offers tremendous promise to further enhance the life-saving capacity of law enforcement officials in Wilmington.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON, that the Council respectfully encourages leaders of the Wilmington Police Department to provide training and certify officers to carry Narcan while on duty. It is the hope of the Council that continued efforts to identify and implement such tools and programming will help to combat the increase in heroin and opioid overdoses experienced by those in Wilmington.

Passed by City Council,
April 7, 2016

Attest: Maribel Seijo
City Clerk

Approved as to form this 7th
day of April, 2016.

James Dhath
Assistant City Solicitor