

 KENTUCKY YMCA YOUTH ASSOCIATION KENTUCKY YOUTH ASSEMBLY Legislative Bill	Blue Bill # HB 43						
	Referred to Committee: House 4						
Authors: Ben Bertsch, Mary Wurtz, Rachael Tingley, Monica Spritzky	Action on the Bill <table> <tr> <td>House</td> <td>Senate</td> </tr> <tr> <td>___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed</td> <td>___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed</td> </tr> <tr> <td>___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated</td> <td>___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated</td> </tr> </table>	House	Senate	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated	___ <input type="checkbox"/> Defeated
House		Senate					
___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed		___ <input type="checkbox"/> Passed					
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School: Villa Madonna Academy							
City: Villa Hills							

1 An act to enact a "Good Samaritan Law" to grant immunity to witnesses of heroin overdoses.

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3 **Be it enacted by the Youth Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky**

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5 Section 1: In 2012, the number of deaths in Northern Kentucky from heroin overdose doubled from 33 the
6 previous year to 66. In 2011 the counties of Boone, Kenton, and Campbell made up 60 percent of the heroin
7 related prosecutions made, even though they only account for 8.4 percent of Kentucky's population. In
8 metropolitan Louisville, the death rate rose 148% in a year, rising from 25 to 62 in 2012. Southeastern
9 Kentucky saw a 550% increase in heroin related deaths in 2012, with ages ranging from 16-72. Across
10 Kentucky and the entire country, heroin abuse and overdose rates are skyrocketing. Overdose is the second
11 highest cause of injury-related death, second only to motor vehicle accidents. The first three hours after the
12 injection of drugs are the most crucial in saving lives, but no more than 56% of witnesses of overdoses are
13 reported to have contacted emergency response. 911 Good Samaritan law have already been passed and
14 put into effect in fourteen states, granting immunity to witnesses of an overdose who call 911 to report it,
15 saving the life of a potential victim.

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17 Section 2: Individuals who call emergency first responders to report a drug overdose will be granted
18 immunity from prosecution related to the overdose.

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20 Section 3: Individuals will only be immune from prosecution for charges directly related to the overdose in
21 question. The individual can be prosecuted on grounds of evidence gathered independently from the 911 call
22 reporting the overdose.

23
24 Section 4: This bill will not require any funding as it only grants immunity to witnesses from prosecution.

25
26 Section 5: This law will be enforced starting January 1, 2014. All hospital employees and law enforcement
27 agencies will be made aware of this law. Those who go against this law and prosecute revived overdose
28 patients or witnesses will be subject to disciplinary measures from their county.