



Maine's New Good Samaritan Law Fact Sheet

The new Good Samaritan law, passed in 2022, is designed to encourage people at the scene of an overdose to call 9-1-1 right away, without worrying about arrest or other legal consequences.

Who does the new Good Samaritan Law protect?

A protected person is:

- A person who, in good faith, seeks medical assistance for a person experiencing a drug-related overdose
- A person who is experiencing an overdose and needs medical assistance
- A person who is "rendering aid" at the scene of an overdose. "Rendering aid" means performing any action that involves looking after a person who is experiencing a suspected drug-related overdose.

What does the new Good Samaritan Law protect from?

A protected person is immune from arrest and prosecution for most non-violent crimes, including all drug crimes. They are also immune from revocation and violation of conditions of release, probation, supervised community confinement, community confinement monitoring, deferred disposition, and administrative release.

Who does the new Good Samaritan Law not protect?

People who commit violent crimes, including but not limited to:

All violent crimes:	All sex crimes:	All crimes against children:
Murder/Manslaughter	Gross sexual assault	Abandonment of a child
Violation of a protection from harassment order	Unlawful sexual contact	Endangering the welfare of a child
Domestic violence	Sexual abuse of minors	A full list can be found here

When does this law go into effect?

The protections of this law will be in full effect on August 8th, 2022. Until that time, the original law signed in 2019 is still in effect.

What does the original law signed in 2019 do?

The original Good Samaritan law, passed in 2019, protects a person who is overdosing and the person who called 9-1-1 for help, from arrest, prosecution or probation violation for two crimes: drug possession and stealing drugs.