

Xylazine

Xylazine, also known as "tranq," is a sedative with analgesic and muscle relaxant properties, and is used for legitimate purposes by veterinarians, primarily for the sedation of large animals. Many dealers and users are obtaining Xylazine through the black market and then mixing the drug with other narcotics, including fentanyl, heroin, and cocaine. When combined with deadly narcotics, Xylazine becomes resistant to opioid antagonists, including naloxone, as it is not an opioid, although the effect on the human body is similar to that of an organic or synthetic opioid.

Under current law, anyone in possession of Xylazine can only be charged with possession and distribution of a controlled substance, regardless of the amount. This legislation seeks to amend s. 893.135, F.S. to add Xylazine to Florida's trafficking statute. Under this legislation, a dealer who unlawfully sells, delivers or manufactures Xylazine will face a first-degree felony.

HB 45 by Representative Plakon and SB 1360 by Senator Leek





