



**House Health and Government Operations Committee
February 21, 2023**

**House Bill 321
Cigarette Restitution Fund –
Payments for Sale and Marketing of Electronic Smoking Devices – Use
Support**

NCADD-Maryland supports House Bill 321. For many years, Maryland has held a policy that when multi-state national lawsuits are pursued, any resulting funds awarded to the state should be used primarily to repair the damage caused by the companies being sued.

We want to thank the sponsor of the bill for continuing to push for this policy. Delegate Rosenberg led the efforts to establish the Cigarette Restitution Fund to capture the funding as a result of lawsuits against the tobacco industry. He then initiated the creation of the Opioid Restitution Fund during the pursuit of litigation and eventual settlement against opioid manufacturers.

Today NCADD-Maryland stands proudly with Delegate Rosenberg in ensuring the funding that results from the lawsuits against companies involved in the sale and marketing of electronic smoking devices is invested in programs that deter and prevention young people from using all of these vaping and tobacco products.

We therefore ask the committee for favorable report on House Bill 321.

The Maryland Affiliate of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD-Maryland) is a statewide organization that works to influence public and private policies on addiction, treatment, and recovery, reduce the stigma associated with the disease, and improve the understanding of addictions and the recovery process. We advocate for and with individuals and families who are affected by alcoholism and drug addiction.

