

**House Judiciary Committee
February 28, 2023**

**House Bill 44: Correctional Services - Pregnant Incarcerated Individuals -
Substance Use Disorder Assessment and Treatment**

*****SUPPORT*****

The National Association of Social Workers – Maryland Chapter, an organization representing social workers statewide, is asking for your support for House Bill 44 - Correctional Services - Pregnant Incarcerated Individuals - Substance Use Disorder Assessment and Treatment.

This bill would assist women without who lack support and services to get prenatal care which can help them have a healthy baby. It also lowers the risk of the baby being born too early, which can lead to health problems for the baby.

Social Workers support this bill because research has proven that good health care before and during and after pregnancy is important in baby growth and development and keeping both baby and mother healthy. Early intervention is the best way to be sure the baby gets a head start on a healthy life.

We urge a favorable report on House Bill 44.