



## **Maryland Addiction Directors Council**

**House Bill 44 – Correctional Services –**

**Pregnant Incarcerated Individuals - Substance Use Disorder Assessment and Treatment**

House Judiciary Committee

February 28, 2023

### **TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT**

Maryland Addiction Directors Council (MADC) represents SUD and Dual Recovery outpatient and residential providers in Maryland. MADC members provide over 1,200 residential beds across the State and advocate for quality SUD and Dual Recovery outpatient and residential treatment.

MADC is writing in support of HB44 which requires the needed screening and care for pregnant incarcerated individuals. MADC providers are at the forefront of treatment services for the court-ordered and 8507 programs and know first-hand the many challenges in transition of health care from incarceration to release.

HB44 provides for screening for substance use disorder at intake for pregnant incarcerated individuals, referral to a health care provider and provision of certain medications and treatment. The bill requires a correctional unit to arrange for health insurance coverage and follow-up health care before release of a pregnant incarcerated individual and that the pregnant incarcerated individual be provided with medical records on release.

This bill will help ensure that pregnant incarcerated individuals receive the needed treatment services and at release are transitioned to appropriate health care with needed medical records. **For these reasons, Maryland Addiction Directors Council urges this committee to pass HB44.**