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Budget and Taxation Committee

Subcommittees

Chair, Pensions

Public Safety, Transportation, and
Environment

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
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TESTIMONY – SENATE BILL 801
CORRECTIONAL SERVICES – MEDICATION –
ASSISTED TREATMENT
BUDGET AND TAXATION COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 21, 2024

Chair Guzzone, Vice Chair Rosapepe, and Fellow Committee Members:

The aim of Senate Bill 801 is to provide clear grant funding to individual counties for the funding of medication assisted treatment programs. Under this bill, we would simply instruct the Secretary of Health (in consultation with the Opioid Operational Command Center) to provide yearly grant funding from the Opioid Restitution Fund to individual counties based on the number of individuals that receive medication-assisted treatment through their local departments of correction.

Drug treatment services are essential to ensuring a reduction in recidivism and successful outcomes for those battling addiction while incarcerated. Treating and rehabilitating individuals must always remain the fundamental aim of our departments of correction and this bill would be a means to that end.

For the reasons listed above, I ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 801.