



**House Health & Government Operations Committee  
March 14, 2024**

**House Bill 295  
Overdose Awareness Day**

**Support**

NCADD-Maryland supports House Bill 295. August 31<sup>st</sup> has been recognized as Overdose Awareness Day around the world since 2001. Events are held that day in cities and towns all over the globe, in remembrance of those lost to overdoses.

Awareness days are opportunities for community groups, employers, schools, and local officials to conduct educational and advocacy events to promote prevention and policies that create greater access to treatment, harm reduction services, and recovery supports. These events are also intended to reduce the stigma associated with the disease and help those still grieving find comfort among those who have also lost loved one.

NCADD-Maryland believes that more attention brought to this tragic crisis that continues to worsen is worthwhile. We urge your support of House Bill 295.

*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.*

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