



**House Health & Government Operations Committee
February 15, 2024**

**House Bill 736
Health Insurance and Maryland Medical Assistance Program - Coverage -
Opioid Reversal Drugs and Products
NARCAN Price Cap Act**

Support

NCADD-Maryland supports House Bill 736 which will allow people to use their health insurance to help pay for over-the-counter overdose reversal drugs.

The FDA has approved two naloxone products as safe enough to be sold without a prescription, Narcan and RiVive. This represents progress in harm reduction policies intended to save people's lives. While not everyone will need to or choose to use their insurance to access these naloxone products, it will present an advantage to some people who cannot access the medication for free, and who cannot afford the retail price.

In addition, House Bill 736 will also cap a co-pay for a product purchased this way to \$10. This policy will improve the availability and accessibility of this life-saving medication and we urge a favorable report.

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.