



Maryland's Office of Overdose Response

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Emily Keller, Special Secretary of Overdose Response

March 19, 2025

The Honorable Joselyn Pena-Melnyk
Chair, House Health and Government Operations Committee
240 Taylor House Office Building
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Senate Bill 594 - Public Health - Use of Opioid Restitution Fund and Training Under the Overdose Response Program

Dear Chair Pena-Melnyk:

Maryland's Office of Overdose Response (MOOR) respectfully submits this letter of support with Senate Bill (SB) 594, as amended, which would amend the allowable uses of the Opioid Restitution Fund (ORF) in State Finance and Procurement Article 7-331. The suggested amendments proposed in SB594 would better align Maryland's ORF statute with the national opioid settlement allowable uses.

MOOR is in support of efforts to align State Finance and Procurement Article 7-331 with the national settlement documents, as this was a recommendation from the ORF Advisory Council in 2024, however we believe that additional amendments would provide more clarity to state and local fund administrators and grantees.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Benjamin Fraifeld, Associate Director for Policy & Advocacy at MOOR, 443-346-3013.

Sincerely,

Emily Keller, Special Secretary of Overdose Response