

SENATE BILL 876

J3, J1

6lr0650

By: Senator Attar

Introduced and read first time: February 6, 2026

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Recovery Residences – Certification – Requirement**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring, beginning on a certain date, rather than authorizing, a
4 recovery residence to be certified by a credentialing entity before operating in the
5 State; and generally relating to the certification of recovery residences.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

7 Article – Health – General

8 Section 7.5–101(a) and (o), 19–2501(a), (c), and (e), and 19–2502

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

12 Article – Health – General

13 Section 7.5–401(a) and (b)(2), 19–2503, and 19–2504

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

16 BY adding to

17 Article – Health – General

18 Section 19–2501.1

19 Annotated Code of Maryland

20 (2023 Replacement Volume and 2025 Supplement)

21 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

22 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

23 **Article – Health – General**

24 7.5–101.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

(o) “Recovery residence” means a service that:

(2) Does not include clinical treatment services.

7 7.5-401.

8 (a) **(1)** Except as otherwise provided in this section, a behavioral health
9 program shall be licensed by the Secretary before program services may be provided in this
10 State.

13 (b) The Secretary may exempt the following persons from the licensure
14 requirements of this section:

15 (2) Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, [recovery residences,]
16 peer support services, family support services, or other similar organizations, if the
17 organization holds meetings or provides support services but does not provide any type of
18 treatment;

19 19-2501.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

21 (c) "Certified recovery residence" means a recovery residence that holds a
22 certificate of compliance.

23 (e) "Recovery residence" has the meaning stated in § 7.5–101 of this article.

24 19-2501.1.

25 **BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2027, A RECOVERY RESIDENCE SHALL BE CERTIFIED**
26 **BY A CREDENTIALING ENTITY APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT UNDER § 19-2502**
27 **OF THIS SUBTITLE BEFORE OPERATING IN THE STATE.**

28 19-2502.

29 (a) The Department shall approve a credentialing entity to develop and
30 administer a certification process for recovery residences.

(b) The credentialing entity shall:

(1) Establish recovery residence certification requirements;

3 (2) Establish processes to administer the application, certification, and
4 recertification process;

5 (3) Establish processes to monitor and inspect a recovery residence;

6 (4) Conduct an on-site inspection of a recovery residence:

7 (i) Before issuing a certificate of compliance; and

8 (ii) At least once during each certification renewal period; and

11 (c) A certificate of compliance issued by the credentialing entity is valid for 1 year
12 from the date of issuance.

13 (d) The credentialing entity may revoke the certificate of compliance of a certified
14 recovery residence if the credentialing entity finds that the recovery residence is not in
15 compliance with the requirements established by the credentialing entity.

16 19-2503.

17 (a) (1) On or before October 1, 2017, the credentialing entity shall submit a list
18 to the Department of the recovery residences that have obtained a certificate of compliance.

21 (b) [1] On or before November 1, 2017, the] THE Department shall publish
22 AND MAINTAIN on its website:

23 [i] (1) A list of each credentialing entity and the contact
24 information for the credentialing entity; and

[27] (2) The list published under paragraph (1)(ii) of this subsection shall
28 indicate whether the owner of a recovery residence has received a valid certificate of
29 compliance.]

(2) The list published under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall include only the owner of the recovery residence and the contact information of the owner.

6 19-2504.

10 (b) (1) A person who violates subsection (a) of this section is subject to a civil
11 penalty imposed by the Department not exceeding \$1,000 for each offense.

16 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
17 October 1, 2026.