



Senate Finance Committee  
January 15, 2020

## Senate Bill 113 - Health Insurance - Provider Panels - Definitions of Provider and Health Care Services

### Support

The Maryland Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence (MATOD) supports SB 113, which holds carriers accountable to existing credentialing deadlines for substance use disorder and mental health facilities. Making sure credentialing decisions are made in a timely manner is necessary so consumers have access to treatment services.

We urge the Maryland Insurance Administration to go a step further and prohibit carriers from also requiring that each individual clinician working in a facility be individually credentialed when the facility is the billing entity.

This improved credentialing process would significantly enhance access to and continuity of substance use disorder treatment. The recommended improved credentialing process would allow the credentialed treatment facility to continue to bill insurers for services during the months it can take to get new clinicians credentialed.

Maryland Medicaid has already enacted this improved process, and we urge the private sector to follow suit.

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*MATOD members include over 60 community and hospital based Opioid Treatment Programs, local Health Departments, local Addiction and Behavioral Health Authorities and Maryland organizations that support evidence-based Medication Assisted Treatment. MATOD members include thousands of highly trained and dedicated addiction counselors, clinical social workers, physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, peer recovery specialists and dedicated staff who work every day to save and transform lives.*