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Health and Government Operations Committee  
Attn: Chair Shane E. Pendergrass

House Bill 611

I am writing this letter as a substance abuse counselor. I have had the pleasure of working at a treatment facility that offers vivitrol in house. I can say with great certainty that I have seen many more successful treatments for clients who are receiving vivitrol injections as opposed to suboxone maintenance. I currently have clients who are receiving the vivitrol injection monthly and they have expressed the benefits of being on vivitrol.

I support HB 611, but with amendments that include access to all MAT and that the hub be required to provide inpatient detoxification. These amendments would ensure patient centered care and a pathway for each medication. There is no "one size fits all" approach to addiction treatment, as stated in SAMHSA's Treatment Improvement Protocol (TIP) 63. This is further reinforced by the ASAM National Practice Guidelines which state that "the choice among available treatment options should be a shared decision between the clinician and the patient."

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Kaitlyn Arnold, CSC-AD  
Evolve Residential, LLC