



2/20/20

House Bill 611

Health and Government Operations Committee

Chair Shane E. Pendergrass

My name is Sean Nicholson and I work in a high capacity within the recovery community in the state of Maryland. I was a founding member of the Board of Directors for Phoenix Foundation of Maryland, a nonprofit that is opening a recovery high school in Frederick, Maryland. I am the Executive Producer of "Heroin's Grip," a documentary film about the opioid crisis in Frederick, Maryland. I am the founder of Solid Ground Recovery, which operates four sober living environments for men and women in Frederick County. I work with people in crisis, helping them navigate the complicated process of obtaining resources and/or treatment to get the help they so desperately need. I battled with substance use disorder for 15 years and I am proud to say that I have been clean and sober for almost four and a half years.

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

Thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sean Nicholson", is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Sean Nicholson, P: 240-457-8874

Director of Development

Phoenix Foundation of Maryland, [www.phoenixfoundationmd.org](http://www.phoenixfoundationmd.org)