

SB0100-EHE_MACo_SUP.pdf

Uploaded by: D'Paul Nibber

Position: FAV



Senate Bill 100

General Provisions – Commemorative Days – Overdose Awareness

MACo Position: **SUPPORT**

To: Education, Health, and Environmental
Affairs Committee

Date: March 10, 2022

From: D'Paul Nibber

The Maryland Association of Counties (MACo) **SUPPORTS** SB 100. This bill would require the Governor to proclaim August 31 as Overdose Awareness Day annually.

On August 31, 2021, Governor Larry Hogan ordered all flags across Maryland at half-staff to commemorate International Overdose Awareness Day. Each year, the day honors the memory of those who passed due to substance use disorders. Unfortunately, in each of the last two years, Maryland has set records for opioid-related overdoses.

Our counties, who operate at the frontlines of the opioid epidemic, have used International Overdose Awareness Day to bring renewed focus to the work that must be done to save lives. For example, Baltimore City coordinates an anti-stigma campaign to coincide with the day. Similarly, in 2021, Harford County spread stories of recovery, treatment resources, and recovery events over social media. Howard County provided training on how to administer naloxone, a life-saving medication capable of reversing opioid overdoses.

Altogether, SB 100 is needed to shed light on those who have, and those who continue to suffer from, substance use disorders, and renew Maryland's commitment to overcoming the opioid epidemic. For these reasons, MACo **SUPPORTS** SB 100 and urges a **FAVORABLE** report.

CEBall_SB100_Support_Comm Day for Opioids_Final.pd

Uploaded by: Meghan Lynch

Position: FAV



HOWARD COUNTY OFFICE OF COUNTY EXECUTIVE

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March 10, 2022

Senator Paul Pinsky, Chair
Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee
Miler Senate Office Building, 2 West
Annapolis, MD 21401

Re: Testimony **IN SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 100: General Provisions – Commemorative Days – Overdose Awareness

Dear Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan, and Members of the Committee,

Though Howard County has seen a 27 percent decrease in nonfatal overdoses from 2017 through 2021, drug overdoses continue to hit our Maryland communities hard. Recent data from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) show that from April 2020 to April 2021, deaths from overdose rose 21 percent in Maryland.

Senate Bill 100 would require the Governor to annually proclaim August 31st as Overdose Awareness Day, part of a global effort to end overdoses. Since I took office in 2019, Howard County opened both Howard House and Hilda's Place, which are treatment houses for men and women recovering from substance misuse disorders. We also opened Sheppard Pratt's new campus in ElkrIDGE, which contains 17 medically managed detox beds for people with co-occurring mental health challenges. Additionally, we provide nearly \$600,000 annually to support behavioral health navigation support.

I remain committed to expanding access to life-saving treatment and developing solutions to have a more robust overdose response strategy. We have invested \$1.5 million in residential treatment facilities to create a continuum of care that funds case managers, peer support specialists and a reliable transportation network. The County also provides nearly \$600,000 annually to support behavioral health navigation. Finally, over the past year our Health Department has trained nearly 600 people in its Overdose Response program, which includes naloxone administration. They have also distributed 550 naloxone kits and more than 4,500 Deterra Bags, which allow for safe drug disposal.

The public acknowledgment of this day of awareness would help diminish the stigma of those who have lost their lives to substance misuse and the grief of the families and loved ones left behind. The tragic loss of life is preventable with proper access to care, community support and continued investments from public/private partnerships.

Publicly destigmatizing what has long been perceived as criminal behavior, a private family matter or source of shame would be a step in the direction towards healing and recovery. I welcome your partnership on this critical acknowledgement and urge a favorable report on SB 100.

All the Best,

Howard County Executive

NCADD-MD - SB 100 FAV - Overdose Awareness Day.pdf

Uploaded by: Nancy Rosen-Cohen

Position: FAV



**Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee
March 10, 2022**

**Senate Bill 100
General Provisions - Commemorative Days - Overdose Awareness**

Support

Amid the COVID-19 pandemic, the pre-existing opioid overdose death fatality crisis has worsened. In Maryland, the number of opioid-related deaths increased by 20% between 2019 and 2020, and preliminary data indicates a continued increase in 2021.

NCADD-Maryland supports Senate Bill 100. August 31st has been recognized as Overdose Awareness Day around the world since 2001. Events are held that day in cities and towns all over the globe, in remembrance of those lost to overdoses.

Awareness days are opportunities for community groups, employers, schools, and local officials to conduct educational and advocacy events to promote prevention and policies that create greater access to treatment, harm reduction services, and recovery supports. These events are also intended to reduce the stigma associated with the disease and help those still grieving find comfort among those who have also lost loved one.

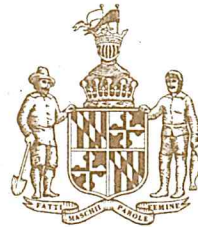
NCADD-Maryland believes that more attention brought to this tragic crisis that continues to worsen is worthwhile. We urge your support of Senate Bill 100.

JacksonSB100Testimony2.pdf

Uploaded by: Michael Jackson

Position: FWA

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Budget and Taxation Committee

Subcommittees

Pensions

Public Safety, Transportation, and
Environment

THE SENATE OF MARYLAND
ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21401

District Office
250 Merrimac Court
Prince Frederick, Maryland 20678

TESTIMONY - SENATE BILL 100

***GENERAL PROVISIONS – COMMEMORATIVE DAYS –
OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY***

***EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
COMMITTEE***

MARCH 10, 2022

Chair Pinsky, Vice Chair Kagan and Committee Members:

Senate Bill 100 is a very straightforward bill that simply requires the Governor to annually proclaim August 31st as Overdose Awareness Day.

Each year Maryland loses thousands of residents to drug overdoses and drug-related death. The purpose of this legislation is to clearly enshrine August 31st as a date to recognize those deaths and this epidemic and to encourage those currently suffering to seek support and treatment.

As someone who spent the majority of his professional career in law enforcement, I have seen firsthand the impact that drug addiction can have on individuals and to their loved ones. Reducing the stigma attached to seeking treatment for addiction would save countless lives. I am hopeful that declaring August 31st as Overdose Awareness Day would be a means to reduce said stigma and to quell the suffering of those who are addicted and those who love them.

For the reasons listed above, I ask for a favorable report of Senate Bill 100.



SB0100/623725/1

AMENDMENTS
PREPARED
BY THE
DEPT. OF LEGISLATIVE
SERVICES

08 MAR 22
10:06:05

BY: Senator Jackson

(To be offered in the Education, Health, and Environmental
Affairs Committee)

AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL 100

(First Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, in line 4, after “Day” insert “; requiring the Governor annually to order that the State flag be flown at half-staff on a certain day; and generally relating to Overdose Awareness Day”.

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, in line 19, before “**THE**” insert “(A)”; and after line 20, insert:

“(B) THE GOVERNOR ANNUALLY SHALL ORDER THE STATE FLAG TO BE FLOWN AT HALF-STAFF ON AUGUST 31.”

SB0100_smattingly_fav.pdf

Uploaded by: Sandra Mattingly

Position: FWA

Chase B. Mattingly for the FIGHT, Inc.
3800 27th Street
Chesapeake Beach, MD 20732



SENATE BILL 100
EDUCATION, HEALTH, AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Commemorative Days - Overdose Awareness Day
Sandra E. Mattingly, Constituent - Chase B. Mattingly for the FIGHT, Inc.
Position - Favorable with Amendments - March 10, 2022

My name is Sandy Mattingly and I represent the thousands of Maryland families and individuals who have been impacted by addiction and overdose. Whether they struggle with an addiction, live with a love one struggling, or have lost a loved one to a drug induced death. Their lives matter.

My son, Chase Mattingly was only 21 years old four years ago and he made a horrible mistake, a mislead choice to use a drug that caused his death. He was not in addiction. He was healthy, happy and had a bright future. He died from Fentanyl Intoxication. He didn't intend to die and at that time I, the parent, had no idea what Fentanyl was. His life mattered too.

International Overdose Awareness Day is a global event held on August 31st each year and aims to raise awareness of drug overdose, reduce the stigma of substance use and acknowledge the grief of families and friends who have lost love ones.

The tragedy of addiction, overdose and overdose death is unacceptable. Overdose does not discriminate and is preventable. The stigma, the shame and the denial of this epidemic continues to reach epic proportions as we see many more of our young people dying unintentionally do to substance misuse and addiction. This is a mental health crisis. We must act!

To help reduce this stigma I ask each and every one of you to think about the value of your life and that of your loved ones. We need to step up and require our Governor to enact legislation to annually recognize our overdose crisis and lower all flags in memory of our fallen. Lowering our flags on this day would send a much needed public statement and certainly a strong message to our citizens that everyone affected by this crisis is valued.

Our Governor has the authority under EO 01.01.1990.30 Protocol for the Maryland State Flag, Section 5.03 - Use During Period of Mourning, to lower our state flag. A State Governor also has the authority to order our national flag to fly half-staff in honor of any national day of remembrance if they so choose. Let's join the state of Virginia who passed HJR562 last year and will annually fly all flags on August 31st to show their citizens they are remembered and valued.

I urge you to vote YES to Maryland SB0100 to annually Commemorate Overdose Awareness Day and Fly our Flags Half-Staff. Reduce the stigma and help save lives. The Governor's office continues to state and I quote "We are committed to using every tool at our disposal to support individuals battling addiction, their families, and communities for a brighter future." What better way to make good on this commitment and show our citizens that their lives really do matter.

Together let's get Senate Bill 100 on the Governor's desk. Don't wait till it's too late. This effort costs nothing and could help change everything. Thank you.