Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Emily Keller, Special Secretary of Opioid Response

February 17, 2023

The Honorable Brian J. Feldman Chair, Education, Energy, and the Environment Committee 2 West Miller Senate Office Building 11 Bladen Street Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: SB 138 - Overdose Awareness Day

Dear Chair Feldman:

The Opioid Operational Command Center (OOCC) respectfully submits this letter of support for Senate Bill 138.

Overdose Awareness Day remembers those lost to overdoses, and increases awareness of substance use disorders. This day is observed each year, leading into September, which is Recovery Month. An official proclamation of August 31st as Overdose Awareness Day would emphasize Maryland's commitment to addressing the issue of substance use and overdose in our communities. There is no fiscal impact associated with this legislation.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Teresa Heath, OOCC Deputy Director at <a href="mailto:teresa.heath@maryland.gov">teresa.heath@maryland.gov</a> or (443) 381-9289.

Sincerely,

Emily Keller

Special Secretary of Opioid Response