



**House Health & Government Operations Committee
February 22, 2024**

**House Bill 1085
Maryland Insurance Administration - Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity
Reporting Requirements - Revisions and Sunset Repeal**

Support with Amendments

NCADD-Maryland supports House Bill 1085 with amendments that would better reflect a series of recommendations made by the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) in its report on carriers' compliance with the federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (the Parity Act).

We believe the recommendations from the MIA are strong in their attempt to hold carriers accountable to complying with the Parity Act, a law passed in 2008. It was clear from the MIA's report and subsequent recommendations, that many carriers are failing to not only comply with the Parity Act, but also with the reporting requirements this General Assembly enacted in 2020.

We ask this Committee to consider the stronger language in a similar bill, House Bill 1074, which we believe better reflects the recommendations made by the MIA.

Parity is about ensuring people have access to the services they need. This impacts people's lives every day. This Committee and the whole General Assembly have worked for many years now trying to improve the quality of services and access to them. Strengthening compliance reporting requirements will force carriers to do better.

We ask you to hold insurance carriers accountable by amending House Bill 1085 to better reflect the recommendations made by the MIA.