





Amended Position - Support

House Appropriations and Health and Government Operations Committees HB 552 (Taveras) – Higher Education – Drug Detection Products – Distribution and Report

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On behalf of the member institutions of the Maryland Independent College and University Association (MICUA) and the nearly 55,000 students we serve, I thank you for the opportunity to provide support testimony for <u>HB 552</u> (<u>Taveras</u>) – <u>Higher Education – Drug Detection Products – Distribution and Report</u>. The legislation would require that "each institution of higher education shall provide, at no charge to students, drug detection products to be made available in student health centers, libraries, and bathrooms".

With the sponsor amendments that allow more flexibility in the various locations to provide drug detection products, the voluntary opportunity to select the location of product placement, and the removal of funding hurdles by proposing the registration with the Overdose Response Program within the Maryland Department of Health, MICUA institutions would support HB 552. The proposed sponsor amendments would allow MICUA schools to build upon current partnerships with local health departments where they obtain naloxone.

For the reasons above, we support HB 552 with the sponsor amendments.

If you have any questions, please contact Irnande Altema, Associate Vice President for Government and Business Affairs, ialtema@micua.org.