

**Emily Tarsell, LCPC**

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**2314 Benson Mill Road  
Sparks, Maryland 21152  
March 6, 2025**

**Favorable SB 875 (HB 1109)**

Public Health – Medetomidine and Xylazine Consumer Protection Act

Dear Chairwoman Beidle and Members of the Senate Finance Committee,

I am Emily Tarsell, a mother, licensed therapist and founder of Health Choice Maryland. The mission of our organization is to promote education for informed medical choice and health freedom. In keeping with that mission, we ask your Favorable report for SB 875 (HB1109), a bill regarding certain prohibitions against the sale, distribution, exposure and use of medetomidine and xylazine, particularly for those under the age of 21 years.

Medetomidine and xylazine are veterinary tranquilizer products that can cause adverse effects including slowed heart rate, low blood pressure and decreases in brain and spinal cord activity. It is not approved for use in people

However, medetomidine like xylazine may be increasingly found in the illicit drug supply and are resulting in central nervous system depression and over dose deaths.

Most of us are totally unaware of the use of these products by humans so public education needs to increase. BThis bill with its prohibitions and penalties would result in increased awareness of illicit use of these drugs. We urge the Committee to vote **Favorable for SB875**. Thank you.

Emily Tarsell, LCPC