



**SB 495**  
**Opioid Restitution Fund – Authorized Users**

MCAA Position: **OPPOSE**

TO: Finance

DATE: March 24, 2025

FROM: Ryan Ross, President  
Lamonte Cooke, Legislative Committee  
Mary Ann Thompson, Legislative  
Committee

The Maryland Correctional Administrator’s Association (MCAA), an organization comprised of our statewide jail wardens and administrators for promoting and improving best correctional practices, appreciates the opportunity to provide information regarding SB495.

House Bill 116 was enacted as Maryland Law, specifically, the Annotated Code of Maryland, Correctional Services, 9-603. This law established that all Maryland counties and the state prison system were to provide medicated assisted treatment, which was to be state-funded.

In accordance with the law, local detention centers throughout the State have implemented Medicated Assisted Treatment Programs. Since then, however, local detention centers have struggled to fund the program and all its tenets because the process for receiving grant funding from competitive applications for mandated programs has been inconsistent and onerous. To pay for the MAT Programs, the local detention centers have had to submit for grant funding, and the law clearly states that the State will provide the budgetary monies to implement and maintain the program. Local detention centers do not have the resources to apply for multiple competitive grants to only get a fraction of the costs covered, and they also need to report on the multiple grants in addition to the detailed statistical data required by the law.

During the legislative session, HB1084 was introduced, which would amend the original law to remove some of that burden by requiring a county to demonstrate a single application for grant funding before receiving full reimbursement from the State. This would greatly assist jurisdictions in avoiding trying to piece together what are sometimes 3-5 different funding sources if fortunate enough to receive grant funding. Unfortunately, HB 1084, a compromise by the local detention centers, has yet to make it out of committee.

SB495 would expand the authorized users of the Opioid Restitution Fund, but to date, the State has never funded 9-603 as mandated by law.

MCAA has carefully reviewed the bill, collaborated with partners from MACO, and affected the State of Maryland agencies. MCAA **OPPOSES SB495** and requests an **UNFAVORABLE REPORT** by the committee.