



House Health & Government Operations Committee

February 20, 2025

House Bill 974

Health Insurance - Preventive Services - Enforcement Authority Support Support

NCADD Maryland strongly supports House Bill 974. The U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) works to improve the health of people throughout the country by making evidence-based recommendations on effective ways to prevent disease, promote health, and prolong life. Through this process, most private insurance plans are required to cover preventive services that receive the highest grades without a copay. This is incredibly important in the ability of people to access life-saving preventative screenings and treatments.

Among the medications that have been through the rigorous process of evidence examination are those important to the fields of harm reduction and addiction medicine. Screenings for HIV, Hepatitis C, and other sexually transmitted diseases are essential in decreasing the spread of these diseases. There are also prophylactic HIV medications that have very high efficacy rates. It is imperative that these, as well as drugs that are coming to the market in the future, are available to people with no out-of-pocket costs.

We urge a favorable report on House Bill 974.