



Maryland Addiction Directors Council

House Health & Government Operations Committee

February 17, 2025 - Written Testimony in Support of

HB 743 (2025) Health Care Quality Fund for Community-Based Behavioral Health Programs

Maryland Addictions Directors Council (MADC) represents outpatient and residential SUD and dual recovery treatment across the State of Maryland. Our members provide over 1,800 treatment beds across Maryland and provide treatment on the front lines of the Opioid Epidemic.

Maryland Addiction Directors Council (MADC) supports House Bill 743 with the sponsored amendments. House Bill 743 ensures that civil monetary penalties (CMPs) imposed on behavioral health providers are reinvested into workforce development and quality improvement initiatives. Allocating CMPs into a Health Care Quality fund ensures that they are not treated as a general revenue source but rather reinvested into behavioral health quality improvement efforts.

Beyond penalties, this initiative leverages CMPs as a catalyst for continuous quality improvement. Funds will be directed toward training programs, grants, and innovative projects that enhance service delivery, strengthen provider compliance

As amended, this bill will help ensure penalties remain focused on serious violations—such as operating without a license or failing to correct life-threatening deficiencies—while capping fines at \$10,000 per violation to avoid placing excessive financial burdens on providers.

By creating a structured and transparent reinvestment model, House Bill 743 will help strengthen Maryland's behavioral health workforce, improve service quality, and increase access to care. It ensures that CMPs serve a constructive purpose, reinforcing provider accountability while enhancing patient outcomes.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer written testimony. Maryland Addictions Directors Council supports HB 743. We respectfully urge a favorable report on House Bill 743.