



## Maryland's Office of Overdose Response

*Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Emily Keller, Special Secretary of Overdose Response*

March 4, 2025

The Honorable Luke Clippinger  
Chair, House Judiciary Committee  
100 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

### **RE: House Bill 1084 - Correctional Services - Medication-Assisted Treatment Funding**

Dear Chair Clippinger:

Maryland's Office of Overdose Response (MOOR) respectfully submits this letter of support with amendments for House Bill (HB) 1084, which would require the Maryland Department of Health to provide funding to counties for medication-assisted treatment programs and would require counties to report on related programming. Additionally, the bill would authorize the use of Opioid Restitution Funds (ORF) to be used for medication-assisted treatment programs.

The opioid settlement funds present a unique opportunity to enhance Maryland's overdose response efforts, but special attention must be paid to State Finance and Procurement Article 7-331 (i), which states that "money expended from the Fund for the programs and services described under subsection (f) of this section is supplemental to and is not intended to take the place of funding that otherwise would be appropriated for the programs and services".<sup>1</sup> Maryland currently offers multiple grant opportunities for local detention centers to fund medication-assisted treatment programs, including grants from the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention & Policy (GOCPP), the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), and MOOR. Accessing these grant opportunities first would help ensure that the ORF is able to fund multiple priority areas identified by Maryland's Opioid Restitution Fund Advisory Council.

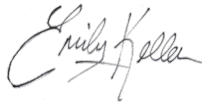
MOOR recognizes that funding opioid use disorder assessment and treatment has been challenging. Expanding access to medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD) is a vital component of the state's overdose response efforts and an allowable use under the settlements. Because state law prohibits the ORF from supplanting existing funding sources, MOOR suggests that this bill be amended to reflect that detention centers must demonstrate prior application to at least one grant source prior to utilizing the ORF. MOOR also recommends keeping the requirement that detention centers offer one form of each FDA-approved MOUD. More specific language for amendments can be found below.

If you would like to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact Benjamin Fraifeld, Associate Director for Policy & Advocacy at MOOR, 443-346-3013.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/Laws/StatuteText?article=gsf&section=7-331&enactments=false>

Sincerely,



Emily Keller  
Special Secretary of Overdose Response

**AMENDMENT NO. 1**

On page 3, in line 29 and in line 32, in each instance, strike the bracket.

**AMENDMENT NO. 2**

On page 5, in line 10 and 11, strike "SECRETARY OF HEALTH THROUGH " and substitute "THE SPECIAL SECRETARY OF;"  
in line 11 strike "A GRANT" and substitute "FUNDING"; strike lines 15 through 17 and replace with "(2) THE MARYLAND OFFICE OF OVERDOSE RESPONSE SHALL PROVIDE FUNDING UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION FROM:";  
in line 19 after the semicolon, strike "AND";  
in line 21 strike "GRANTS" and substitute "FUNDS";  
in line 21 strike the period and insert "; AND (III) ELIGIBLE GRANT FUNDING AVAILABLE THROUGH THE STATE FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT.  
(3) FUNDING UNDER PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION FOR THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR SHALL BE REIMBURSED UPON RECEIPT OF FINAL ITEMIZED EXPENSES ."

in line 22, strike "(3)" and substitute "(4)";  
strike line 26 on page 5 through line 2 of page 6 and insert "(J) (1) ON OR BEFORE JULY 30 EACH YEAR, EACH COUNTY SHALL SUBMIT TO THE OFFICE OF OVERDOSE RESPONSE ALL ESTIMATED ITEMIZED COSTS FOR THE ANNUAL OPERATION OF THE LOCAL MEDICATION-ASSISTED TREATMENT PROGRAM IN THE LOCAL DETENTION CENTER FOR THE CURRENT FISCAL YEAR AS WELL AS THE FINAL ITEMIZED EXPENSES FOR THE PRIOR FISCAL YEAR."

**AMENDMENT NO. 3**

On page 6, in lines 4 and 5, strike "SECRETARY OF HEALTH" and substitute "MARYLAND OFFICE OF OVERDOSE RESPONSE";  
in line 4, after "SUBSECTION," insert  
"OR INFORMATION REQUESTED BY THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION AND POLICY UNDER SUBSECTION (L);"  
in line 5 strike "GRANT" and substitute "FUNDING";  
in lines 9 and 10, strike "DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING GRANTS UNDER SUBSECTION (I) OF THIS SECTION" and substitute "OFFICE OF OVERDOSE RESPONSE IN AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO CARRY

OUT SUBSECTION (I) OF THIS SECTION”

AMENDMENT NO. 4

On page 6, after line 14 insert “A COUNTY MUST DEMONSTRATE AN ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN AT LEAST ONE GRANT FROM THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH OR THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION AND POLICY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR IN WHICH THEY ARE REQUESTING REIMBURSEMENT PRIOR TO RECEIVING FUNDING FROM THE OPIOID RESTITUTION FUND”

AMENDMENT NO. 5

On page 7, in line 36, strike the brackets.

On page 8, strike lines 1 through 6 and insert; (18) ANY OTHER INFORMATION REQUESTED BY THE MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, THE MARYLAND OFFICE OF OVERDOSE RESPONSE, OR THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE OF CRIME PREVENTION AND POLICY RELATED TO THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE PROVISIONS UNDER THIS SECTION.

AMENDMENT NO. 6

On page 10, in line 8 strike “GRANTS” and substitute “FUNDING”.