

SB0379_MHAMD_FAV.pdf

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SB 379 – Recovery Residence Grant Program - Funding

House Appropriations Committee

March 31, 2026

Position: SUPPPORT

Mental Health Association of Maryland (MHAMD) is a nonprofit education and advocacy organization that brings together consumers, families, clinicians, advocates and concerned citizens for unified action in all aspects of mental health and substance use disorders (collectively referred to as behavioral health). We appreciate the opportunity to provide this testimony in support of SB 379.

Recovery residences are an important part of the continuum of care for people in early recovery. They deliver peer support and structured living and greatly increase an individual's odds of successfully recovering from a substance use disorder.

Research shows that, compared to returning home immediately after residential treatment, living in a recovery residence brings about higher abstinence rates, greater rates of employment and lower rates of criminal recidivism.

There is a dire need for quality recovery residences. To offer quality programs, recovery residences need sufficient funds. SB 379 would ensure continued grant funding for recovery residences to stay financially afloat while delivering high-quality services that follow best practices.

For these reasons, MHAMD supports SB 379 and urges a favorable report.

For more information, please contact Ann Geddes at (443) 926-3396

NCADD-MD - 2026 SB 379 FAV - Recovery Residence Gr

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**House Appropriations Committee
March 31, 2026**

**Senate Bill 379
Recovery Residence Grant Program – Funding
Support**

The Maryland Chapter of the National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence supports Senate Bill 379. Housing is a basic human need. According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), “Recovery housing is an intervention that is specifically designed to address the recovering person’s need for a safe and healthy living environment while supplying the requisite recovery and peer supports.”

It is because Maryland recognized the crucial role housing plays in people’s lives, the Maryland Department of Health Behavioral Health Administration adopted recovery residence standards established by the National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR). Maryland utilizes their matrix of levels of support to certify recovery residences. This bill will continue to support certain levels of certified recovery residences to assist with operating costs.

NCADD-Maryland stands ready to continue to work with the Department on ensuring recovery residences and all recovery support services are effective and appropriately funded.

We urge a favorable report on Senate Bill 389.

SB379_APP_RHTC_FAV.pdf

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Position: FAV



March 31, 2026

House Appropriations Committee

SB379 - Recovery Residence Grant Program – Funding

POSITION: FAVORABLE

The Recovery Housing & Treatment Center Coalition of Maryland (RHTC) respectfully submits this testimony in strong support of Senate Bill 379, which extends the requirement that the annual State budget include a dedicated appropriation for the Recovery Residence Grant Program through fiscal year 2030.

RHTC represents recovery housing and treatment providers across Maryland who deliver stable, safe, and supportive environments for individuals in recovery from substance use disorders. The Recovery Residence Grant Program plays a critical role in sustaining this continuum of care.

Recovery residences are a proven component of Maryland’s behavioral health and substance use disorder response. These programs provide structured, substance-free housing that supports long-term recovery, reduces relapse, and lowers the likelihood of costly emergency and criminal justice system involvement.

SB 379 does not create a new program or expand State spending beyond existing levels. Instead, it extends an established, modest, and targeted investment by continuing the \$500,000 annual appropriation for the Recovery Residence Grant Program through fiscal year 2030.

This predictability is essential. Recovery housing providers operate in a challenging financial environment, balancing rising operational costs with the need to maintain quality, compliance, and accessibility. Stable funding allows providers to plan responsibly, retain staff, and continue serving individuals who rely on these programs as a foundation for recovery.

The Recovery Residence Grant Program represents a cost-effective use of State resources. By supporting housing stability for individuals in recovery, the Program helps prevent more expensive downstream costs associated with hospitalization, emergency services, homelessness, and incarceration.



Extending the funding authorization through FY 2030 ensures Maryland maintains continuity in a program that complements treatment services and strengthens the overall behavioral health system.

SB 379 reflects sound fiscal policy. It maintains the current funding level, preserves legislative oversight through the budget process, and avoids disruption to a program that providers and communities have come to rely on.

Rather than revisiting this appropriation year after year, the bill provides stability while allowing the General Assembly to focus on broader system improvements and accountability measures.

For these reasons, RHTC respectfully urges the Committee to issue a Favorable Report on Senate Bill 379.

For more information call or email:

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