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Senate Finance Committee

March 4, 2026

Senate Bill 808 – Health Insurance - Provider Panels - Requirements

FAVORABLE

The Maryland Association for the Treatment of Opioid Dependence (MATOD) supports shortening the timeframes for credentialing providers and increasing transparency in carrier communication and directories.

Here are some examples of how Senate Bill 808 supports OTPs and their patients:

- **Timely and transparent communication from carriers:** When credentialing decisions are delayed or unclear, OTPs cannot schedule patients with that provider, services may be delivered but not reimbursed, and hiring decisions become financially risky. This bill would allow for programs to quickly onboard qualified providers, maintain continuity of care, and avoid disruptions in lifesaving MOUD access.
- **Access to carrier support/points of contact:** Having a designated, responsive carrier contact would reduce the OTP's administrative burden, speed problem resolution, prevent billing backlogs and improve compliance with payer requirements.
- **Consistent credentialing processes:** Having a uniform credentialing form, and processes for submission, will reduce administrative burden and confusion providers often face when navigating credentialing. This will allow for timely submission of credentialing requests and accuracy of documentation.
- **Assist enrollees find in-network OTP providers:** Faster credentialing will increase the number of in-network OTP clinicians and improve directory accuracy. This will allow patients faster admission to treatment with fewer out of network costs.

MATOD believes that Senate Bill 808 will improve the overall efficiency of credentialing, making it easier for patients to access care and reach their recovery goals. MATOD urges the committee to approve this bill.

MATOD members include community and hospital based Opioid Treatment Programs, local Health Departments, local Addiction and Behavioral Health Authorities and Maryland organizations that support evidence-based Medication Assisted Treatment. MATOD members include thousands of highly trained and dedicated addiction counselors, clinical social workers, physicians, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, peer recovery specialists and dedicated staff who work every day to save and transform lives.

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