



House Health Committee
February 10, 2026

House Bill 417 - Public Health - Medetomidine and Xylazine
Consumer Protection Act

Support

NCADD-Maryland supports House Bill 417. This bill prohibits a retailer from distributing or selling a medetomidine product or a xylazine product unless the purchaser provides proof of intent to use the product for institutional, veterinary, or scientific purposes. In addition, the products cannot be sold to an individual younger than 21.

Medetomidine and xylazine are often detected alongside fentanyl in patients who overdose. Both of these drugs are approved for veterinary use. These are drugs that are diverted from their intended uses and instead, mixed in with other substances and sold in the illicit drug supply.

While the retail sale of these drugs may not be the main source of their appearance in the drug supply, this kind of legislation could help slow down diversion and provide an opportunity for more public education. We therefore support HB 417.