



**Maryland Addiction Directors Council  
6207 Belair Road  
Baltimore, MD 21206**

February 9, 2026

The Honorable Heather Bagnall  
Chair, House Health Committee  
Maryland House of Delegates

Re: Support for HB 488- Certified Recovery Residences- Unannounced Inspections

Dear Chair Bagnall and Members of the Committee,

Maryland Addiction Directors Council represents many of Maryland's behavioral health providers, representing organizations with over 1,000 licensed residential substance use disorder beds across Maryland. We write in strong support of **HB 448**, which would require the Maryland Department of Health to conduct unannounced, on-site inspections of certified recovery residences prior to any recertification being granted.

Recovery housing plays a critical role in Maryland's continuum of care and is often the bridge between treatment and long-term stability. For many individuals, a safe and accountable recovery residence is not optional- it is a lifeline that helps sustain recovery, prevent relapses, and reduce the risk of overdose, homelessness, and avoidable crisis. As treatment providers, we have a responsibility to support and strengthen the recovery housing system. Individuals leaving structured treatment must have access to recovery residences that are consistently compliant, safe, and operating with integrity. HB 448 strengthens accountability and protects residents by ensuring certified recovery residences meet statutory and regulatory requirements—not only during scheduled visits.

**MADC strongly supports HB448 as a practical and necessary step to improve quality, safety, and transparency across the recovery housing system.**



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Maryland Addictions Directors Council provides comprehensive education on best practices in behavioral health, compliance with current regulations, and effective evidence-based treatment approached. Our mission is to empower treatment providers, and individuals seeing help, and legislators with the knowledge and resources needed to address behavioral health issues effectively. Through collaboration and innovation, we strive to make a positive and long-lasting impact on the field of behavioral health in Maryland. *For these reasons, we respectfully request a favorable report on HB 448.*

Respectfully submitted,

Craig Lippens  
President  
Maryland Addiction Directors Council (MADC)