



## DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Wes Moore, Governor · Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor · Meena Seshamani, M.D., Ph.D., Secretary

April 1, 2026

The Honorable Heather Bagnall  
Chair, House Health Committee  
241 Taylor House Office Building  
Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: Senate Bill 876 — Recovery Residences - Certification - Requirement — Letter of Information**

Dear Chair Bagnall and Committee Members,

The Maryland Department of Health (the Department) respectfully submits this letter of information for Senate Bill (SB) 876 - Recovery Residences - Certification - Requirement. As amended, SB 876 would require a credentialing entity approved by the Department to certify all recovery residences within the state by June 1, 2027. In addition to the list of recovery residences that have obtained a certificate of compliance, the credentialing entity shall submit an updated list to the Department as necessary. The Department and credentialing entity shall publish and maintain the list of certified recovery residences on its website.

As of September 2025, the Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) was aware of 241 noncertified recovery residences throughout Maryland. As of January 2026, there are 278 certified recovery residences located throughout the state. SB 876 will increase the number of recovery residences required to become certified from 278 to at least 519 recovery residences a year by requiring all uncertified residences to become certified.

BHA is the designated credentialing entity, as required by the Health-General Article §19–2501-03, for recovery residences in accordance with the National Alliance for Recovery Residences (NARR) via the Maryland Certification of Recovery Residences (MCORR). MCORR oversees the application, certification, recertification, monitoring, and inspection of recovery residences to improve the quality of services. Additionally, BHA oversees Maryland RecoveryNet (MDRN), which partners with service providers across the state to fund access to recovery support services for individuals seeking treatment for substance use disorder (SUD) and co-occurring mental health and SUD. Additional details regarding the detailed process by which BHA inspects and certifies recovery residences are available in MDH's 2025 report, [Substance Use Disorder Treatment Programs: Improvements to Oversight](#), pursuant to Ch. 697 (2025).

As drafted, the bill's estimated fiscal note is over \$1 million in FY2027, with substantially similar costs in subsequent years, as the workload cannot be absorbed by existing staff. The Department appreciates the Committee's consideration of this information. For additional information, please contact Meghan Lynch, Director of Governmental Affairs at [meghan.lynch@maryland.gov](mailto:meghan.lynch@maryland.gov).

Sincerely,

Meena Seshamani, MD, PhD  
Secretary of Health