

February 3, 2026

The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr.  
Chairman, Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee  
2 East Miller Senate Office Building  
11 Bladen St., Annapolis, MD 21401

**RE: SUPPORT of Senate Bill 327  
(Criminal Law - Drug Paraphernalia and Controlled Paraphernalia Prohibitions - Repeal) -  
FAVORABLE**

Dear Chair Smith, Vice Chair Waldstreicher, and Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee Members,

As an individual resident of Baltimore City, I strongly support Senate Bill 327 (Criminal Law - Drug Paraphernalia and Controlled Paraphernalia Prohibitions - Repeal) which will repeal drug paraphernalia law and end penalties for drug paraphernalia. This is a common-sense, evidence-based bill that prioritizes the health and safety of all Marylanders.

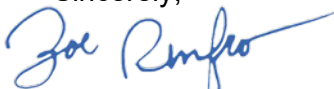
I lost someone I loved to an overdose in 2016, and I have been driven to work in harm reduction ever since. I've been proud to call Baltimore City home for the past decade, and I've had the privilege of working in public health in Maryland for five years.

SB 327 will prevent needless overdose death and infectious disease. Studies show paraphernalia criminalization is counterproductive to public health; it exacerbates fear of arrest, inhibits syringe services participation, increases infectious disease risk, and increases fatal overdose risk. SB 327 will improve linkage to care and quality of life for Marylanders. This bill will cost nothing to implement and will save Maryland millions by keeping our loved ones alive and preventing costly illness.

I believe this bill will simplify Maryland's criminal law, improve our state's infectious disease and overdose prevention response, and keep legally obtained items legal. **I ask that the Senate Judicial Proceedings Committee give Senate Bill 327 a favorable report.**

For more information about this position, please contact Zoe Renfro at [zoe.renfro@gmail.com](mailto:zoe.renfro@gmail.com).

Sincerely,



Zoe Renfro, MPH  
Resident of Baltimore City, Maryland