



Maryland  
Hospital Association

## **Senate Bill 1194 – Substance Abuse Treatment Outcome Partnership Fund**

**Position: *Support***

### **Bill Summary**

SB 1194 alters the definition of "eligible functions" to allow funds from the Substance Abuse Treatment Outcome Partnership Fund to be used for recovery and post-recovery support systems; alters the definition of "eligible population" to allow funds from the fund to be used for services provided to individuals in recovery; requires, beginning in fiscal year 2019, the governor to include \$8,400,000 annually in the state budget; etc.

### **MHA Position**

Established in 2000, the Substance Abuse Treatment Outcome Partnership Fund provides receive matching funds for substance abuse treatment and prevention initiatives to communities throughout Maryland.

Hospitals support the provision of additional resources for evidence-based practices such as peer recovery, and welcome more services for individuals currently in recovery and post-recovery. According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, similar to chronic diseases like diabetes and hypertension, relapse is common after substance abuse treatment with a relapse rate of as much as 60 percent. Ensuring the proper support systems are in place for these individuals every step of the way is key to a long-term, sustainable solution to Maryland's opioid crisis.

Maryland's behavioral health crisis is affecting an estimated 1.5 million Marylanders. From 2012 to 2015, drug- and alcohol-related intoxication deaths spiked by 58 percent. In 2015 alone, nearly 1,300 lives were claimed by drug or alcohol intoxication, a number that doesn't even begin to capture the emotional, physical, or financial toll that addiction exacts on families, individuals, and businesses. Collaboration on all levels, from local communities to the state legislature, is desperately needed to address the current crisis and prevent future generations from fighting a crisis of their own.

For these reasons, we urge you to give SB 1194 a *favorable* report.