

September 25, 2023

Hon. Kevin McCarthy
Speaker
House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Hon. Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
House of Representatives
H-204, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Hon. Cathy McMorris Rodgers
Chair
House Energy and Commerce Committee
2155 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
House Energy and Commerce Committee
2155 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Speaker McCarthy, Minority Leader Jeffries, Chair McMorris Rodgers, Ranking Member Pallone,

The undersigned organizations are grateful for your efforts in reauthorizing the *Support for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act (SUPPORT Act)*. This legislation will undoubtedly be an asset to communities nationwide trying to reduce overdose rates. However, we are disappointed that the *Reentry Act (S. 1165/H.R. 2400)* and *Due Process Continuity of Care Act (S. 971/ H.R. 3074)* are not included in the legislative text for the SUPPORT Act being considered on the floor of the House of Representatives this week. These bills will improve public health and public safety across the country — excluding them from the SUPPORT Act is a missed opportunity.

Last week, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced that [more than 111,000 Americans lost their lives to overdose](#) in the past twelve months. At an event observing National Recovery Month, the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) Director Dr. Rahul Gupta announced that more than 25,000 people had died from an overdose upon release from incarceration in 2022. Evidence-based addiction treatment in jails and prisons could have saved their lives — incarcerated individuals who receive medications for opioid use disorder while incarcerated are 80% less likely to die from an overdose upon release. Jails and prisons can be entry points to treatment. However, archaic federal barriers prevent states and counties from enacting these lifesaving programs. By granting more flexibility for Medicaid-eligible incarcerated individuals, the *Reentry Act* and *Due Process Continuity of Care Act* will increase access to addiction treatment and services, reduce recidivism rates, and save lives.

We urge leadership on both sides of the aisle to act swiftly in passing the *Reentry Act* and *Due Process Continuity of Care Act*.

Sincerely,

A New PATH (Parents for Addiction Treatment & Healing)
Academic consortium of Criminal Justice Health
ACOJA Consulting LLC
Addiction Policy Forum
Addiction Professionals of North Carolina
Advocacy and Research on Reproductive Wellbeing of Incarcerated People (ARRWIP)
AIDS United
American Association of Psychiatric Pharmacists
American Jail Association
American Osteopathic Academy of Addiction Medicine
American Society of Addiction Medicine
AMERSA, Inc (Association for Multidisciplinary Education and Research in Substance use and Addiction)
Association for Ambulatory Behavioral Healthcare (AABH)
Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness
Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
Boston Medical Center
CASES
Center for Popular Democracy
Community Catalyst
Community Oriented Correctional Health Services (COCHS)
Drug Policy Alliance
Due Process Institute
Faces & Voices of Recovery
Families On The Move of New York City, Inc.
Family Based Services Association of NJ
Family Run Executive Director Leadership Association (FREDLA)
Fox Valley Perinatology
HIV Medicine Association
IC&RC
Law Enforcement Leaders to Reduce Crime & Incarceration
Meadows Mental Health Policy Institute
NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
National Association for Behavioral Healthcare
National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors
National Behavioral Health Association of Providers
National Commission on Correctional Health Care
National Council of Churches
National Council for Mental Wellbeing
National Criminal Justice Association
National District Attorneys Association
National Health Care for the Homeless Council

National User Union
NEXT Distro
Operation Restoration
Overdose Prevention Initiative
Pennsylvania Harm Reduction Network
People's Action
Progressive Leadership Alliance of Nevada
RuralOrganizing.org Education Fund
Shatterproof
TASC, Inc. (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities)
The AIDS Institute
The Fortune Society
The Kennedy Forum
White House Recovery and Detox