

April 7, 2025

The Honorable Brett Guthrie
Chairman
Energy & Commerce Committee
2125 Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Ranking Member
Energy & Commerce Committee
2322A Rayburn HOB
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Guthrie and Ranking Member Pallone,

The Mental Health Liaison Group ([MHLG](#)), is a coalition of national organizations representing individuals and families experiencing mental health and substance use challenges, mental health and substance use treatment providers, advocates, and other stakeholders committed to strengthening access to high-quality mental and substance use disorder (SUD) care. As trusted leaders in the field of mental health and substance use disorders, we write in support of the Committee's markup of H.R. 2483, the "SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Act of 2025" (SUPPORT Act).

The state of behavioral health in America remains a national crisis, with millions of people across the nation experiencing substance use disorders and one in five people in the country are experiencing a behavioral health condition each year. While we are encouraged by the decline in overdose deaths from their peak in 2021 through our combined commitment to address this epidemic, fentanyl-related deaths remain troublingly high and individuals living with substance use disorder still need our help. Additionally, the co-occurrence of mental health conditions leading to suicide is taking the lives of far too many people in our country, particularly our youth, new mothers, and medically underserved communities.

We appreciate your leadership in continuing the bipartisan support the Committee built in the 118th Congress and the swift passage of H.R. 2483. With our nation's worsening mental health, substance use, and suicide crisis—and far too many people in the nation lack access to lifesaving support and care—we urge the Committee to swiftly pass the final compromised version of the SUPPORT Act into law.

There is no time to waste; Congress must act now to avert preventable deaths due to substance use disorders and mental health conditions. The MHLG has a long history of working in a bipartisan manner on the development, passage and implementation of mental health and SUD legislation, including the SUPPORT Act and many others. We look forward to working with you to further support people living with mental health and substance use challenges including people working in our communities and depending on Medicaid. We stand ready to serve as a resource if there are any questions. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

Active Minds

American Academy of Nursing

American Art Therapy Association

American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT)

American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work

American Association of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP)

American Association of Psychiatric Pharmacists (AAPP)

American Association on Health and Disability

American Dance Therapy Association

American Foundation for Suicide Prevention

American Mental Health Counselors Association

American Nurses Association

American Occupational Therapy Association

American Psychiatric Association

American Society of Addiction Medicine

Association for Ambulatory Behavioral Healthcare

Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness

Centerstone

Children and Adults with Attention-Deficit/Hyperactivity Disorder

Children's Hospital Association

Clinical Social Work Association

Community Catalyst

Crisis Text Line

Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance (DBSA)

Emergency Nurses Association

Employees Assistance Professionals Association (EAPA)

Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice

International Certification and Reciprocity Consortium

Inseparable

International OCD Foundation

International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses

Maternal Mental Health Leadership Alliance

Mental Health America

National Alliance on Mental Illness

NAADAC, the Association for Addiction Professionals

National Association for Behavioral Healthcare

National Association for Rural Mental Health (NARMH)

National Association of County Behavioral Health and Developmental Disability Directors (NACBHDD)

National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners

National Association of Social Workers

National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Agency Directors (NASADAD)

National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors

National Board for Certified Counselors

National Council for Mental Wellbeing

National Council on Problem Gambling

National Disability Rights Network (NDRN)

National Eating Disorders Association

National Federation of Families

National League for Nursing

National Women's Shelter Network, Inc.

NHMH - No Health without Mental Health

Policy Center for Maternal Mental Health

Psychotherapy Action Network

REDC Consortium

Sandy Hook Promise

School Social Work Association of America

SMART Recovery

Technical Assistance Collaborative (TAC)

The Kennedy Forum

The National Alliance to Advance Adolescent Health

The National Association for Children's Behavioral Health

Tourette Association of America

Vibrant Emotional Health

Western Youth Services

Youth Villages