



**House Health & Government Operations Committee  
March 24, 2022**

**Senate Bill 440  
Commission to Study the Health Care Workforce Crisis in Maryland –  
Establishment**

**Support with Amendments**

The Maryland Affiliate of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD-Maryland) supports Senate Bill 440 with amendments that conform the bill to its crossfile, House Bill 625.

The workforce shortage is real and was a problem before the pandemic. Substance use disorder treatment programs throughout the state have raised this issue and seldom is there a meeting where program directors are not talking about long-standing vacant positions and the difficulties of hiring and retaining staff. There are a number of reasons for the shortage and this legislation proposes they all be examined.

NCADD-Maryland supports the amendments adopted by this Committee to the crossfile, House Bill 625. We appreciate the comprehensive approach proposed in this legislation and with these amendments, we **urge your support of Senate Bill 440.**

*The Maryland Affiliate of the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD-Maryland) is a statewide organization that works to influence public and private policies on addiction, treatment, and recovery, reduce the stigma associated with the disease, and improve the understanding of addictions and the recovery process. We advocate for and with individuals and families who are affected by alcoholism and drug addiction.*