



HB 736- Health Insurance and Maryland Medical Assistance Program – Coverage-Opioid Reversal Drugs and Products

Committee: Health and Government Operations Committee

Date: February 12, 2024

Position: Favorable

The Maryland Coalition of Families: Maryland Coalition of Families (MCF) is a statewide nonprofit organization that provides family peer support services at no cost to families who have a loved one with a mental health, substance use, or problem gambling disorder. Using their personal experience as parents, caregivers and other loved ones, our staff provide emotional support, resource connection and systems navigation as well as support groups and educational trainings and workshops.

Many of the families that our staff support has a loved one with a behavioral health need. Including families with a loved one with substance use disorder. MCF supports this bill for several reasons.

- Naloxone is a safe, non-addicting lifesaving medication and should be accessible to everyone no matter the cost.
- By allowing Naloxone to be covered through certain insurers over the counter at a price no more than \$10 this will help more individuals to be able to have access to Naloxone within local pharmacies.
- This also would be helpful for families we serve who are in more rural areas and are in proximity to their pharmacy but not their local health department etc. As well as all families and individuals who need and or would like to have Naloxone on hand for their loved one but is unable to pay full retail price.



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