September 25, 2023

Hon. Kevin McCarthy	Hon. Hakeem Jeffries
Speaker	Minority Leader
House of Representatives	House of Representatives
H-232, The Capitol	H-204, The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515	Washington, D.C. 20515
Hon. Cathy McMorris Rodgers	Hon. Frank Pallone
Chair	Ranking Member
House Energy and Commerce Committee	House Energy and Commerce Committee
2155 Rayburn House Office Building	2155 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515	Washington, DC 2051

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 undoubtably 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 <u>more</u> <u>than 111,000 Americans lost their lives to overdose</u> 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