



September 18, 2018

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Speaker of the House
S-230, The Capitol
United States Congress
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Democratic Leader
S-221, The Capitol
United States Congress
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
H-232, The Capitol
United States Congress
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
H-204, The Capitol
United States Congress
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leaders McConnell, Schumer, Ryan and Pelosi,

Young People in Recovery (YPR) would like to thank you for your leadership in passing the Substance Use-Disorder Prevention that Promotes Opioid Recovery and Treatment (SUPPORT) for Patients and Communities Act (H.R. 6) and the time and resources Congress has dedicated to addressing the opioid misuse and overdose epidemic. We believe H.R. 6 makes important strides in addressing this epidemic, and in particular support its provisions that focus on recovery support services.

Young People in Recovery is a national grassroots advocacy organization focused on creating recovery-ready communities throughout the nation for young people in, or seeking, recovery from substance use disorders. YPR aims to improve access to treatment; educational resources; employment opportunities; and secure, stable housing that sustains young people in their recovery.

To effectively address this epidemic, a comprehensive approach that includes substance use prevention, addiction treatment and recovery support services is essential. YPR strongly supports the below sections of the House and Senate measures and ask they be included in the final bill:

House Provisions

- Section 5021, 5022 - **H.R. 3192, the CHIP Mental Health Parity Act**
- Section 7031, 7032 - **H.R. 4684, the Ensuring Access to Quality Sober Living Act of 2017**
- Section 7181, 7182 - **H.R. 5587, the Peer Support Communities of Recovery Act**
- Section 11001, 11002, 11003 - **H.R. 5797, the IMD CARE Act**

Senate Provisions

- Section 1402 - **Program to Support Coordination and Continuation of Care for Drug Overdose Patients**
- Section 1404 - **Building Communities of Recovery**
- Section 1406 - **Medication-Assisted Treatment for Recovery from Addiction**

- Section 1409 – **National Recovery Housing Best Practices**
- Section 1411 – **Career Act**
- Section 1412 – **Pilot Program to Help Individuals in Recovery from a Substance Use Disorder Become Stably Housed**
- Section 1413 – **Youth Prevention and Recovery**
- Section 1420 – **Report on Investigations Regarding Parity in Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Benefits**
- Section 1504 – **Enhanced Controlled Substance Overdoses Data Collection, Analysis, and Dissemination**
- Section 1505 – **Preventing Overdoses of Controlled Substances**
- Section 1516 – **National Milestones to Measure Success in Curtailing the Opioid Crisis**
- Section 2209 – **Opioid Addiction Treatment Programs Enhancement**
- Section 2301- **Supporting Family-Focused Residential Treatment**
- Section 2302 – **Improving Recovery and Reunifying Families**
- Section 3306 – **Reauthorization of Drug Court Program**
- Section 3307- **Drug Court Training and Technical Assistance**
- Section 3308 – **Drug Overdose Response Strategy**
- Section 3312 – **Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act Education and Awareness**

As part of a comprehensive approach to addressing the opioid misuse and overdose epidemic, it is essential these provisions be included in the final opioid package. Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We urge Congress to support these necessary policies to effectively combat substance use disorders and the opioid epidemic, and in turn, save lives.

Sincerely,



Justin Luke Riley
 President/CEO, Young People in Recovery

CC:

- The Honorable John Cornyn
- The Honorable Dick Durbin
- The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
- The Honorable Steny Hoyer
- The Honorable Lamar Alexander
- The Honorable Patty Murray
- The Honorable Orrin Hatch
- The Honorable Ron Wyden
- The Honorable Chuck Grassley
- The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
- The Honorable John Thune
- The Honorable Bill Nelson
- The Honorable Greg Walden
- The Honorable Frank Pallone
- The Honorable Michael Burgess
- The Honorable Gene Green

The Honorable Kevin Brady
The Honorable Richard Neal
The Honorable Peter Roskam
The Honorable Sander Levin