

**COMPREHENSIVE ADDICTION RESOURCES EMERGENCY (CARE) ACT
Senator Elizabeth Warren and Rep. Elijah E. Cummings**

STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT

“For nearly thirty years, the Ryan White CARE act has successfully provided life-saving support to people with HIV/AIDS. Problem-solving leaders should be using it as a model for helping vulnerable populations deal with new health threats in today’s society.”

Former Chairman Henry A. Waxman
Author, Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act

“Ryan White CARE Act has been—and continues to be—critical in AIDS response. Sustained federal funding is essential when dealing with a public health crisis. Thank you Senator Warren and Representative Cummings.”

amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research

“In Baltimore, we are being limited in our ability to save lives. We need specific and sustained funding, directly to local jurisdictions that are the hardest hit. Cities and counties are at the forefront of the opioid epidemic. We know what works. A ‘Ryan White’ program is what we need to save lives and turn the tide.”

Dr. Leana Wen, Baltimore City Health Commissioner

“On behalf of the American Society of Addiction Medicine, I applaud Senator Elizabeth Warren and Rep. Elijah E. Cummings for the introduction of the Comprehensive Addiction Resources Emergency (CARE) Act. I especially welcome their leadership in identifying the need for model standards for the regulation of substance use disorder treatment programs; affordable naloxone access for local communities, and passage of S. 2317, the Addiction Treatment Access Improvement Act of 2018. Addiction is a chronic brain disease that often requires long-term treatment and support. The introduction of the CARE Act is one more historic step toward a day when our nation’s addiction treatment infrastructure can consistently deliver affordable, evidence-based, and comprehensive addiction treatment to those in need.”

Kelly J. Clark, President, American Society of Addiction Medicine

“We’re glad to see Sen. Warren and Rep. Cummings take this important step in prioritizing treatment and confronting the opioid crisis as the public health emergency it truly represents. Their actions come as the Trump administration is attempting to reintroduce failed, draconian war on drugs style policy that will only drive up incarceration without getting people the assistance they need. The proven strategy for halting the opioid epidemic is treatment and prevention. The Brennan Center recently released a report recommending exactly these types of interventions. We should focus on what we know works instead of policies that have previously led us down a dangerous, pro-incarceration path.”

Ames Grawert, Senior Counsel, Brennan Center for Justice, NYU School of Law

“AIDS United strongly endorses the CARE Act of 2018 for, among other things, its recognition and inclusion of community-based harm reduction programs as a core component of our nation’s collective response to the opioid crisis. Such recognition is long overdue and is essential if we are to successfully tackle the monumental challenges we face in this current crisis.”

AIDS United

“Since the 1980s, Congress has poured billions of dollars into locking people up for drug offenses and other punitive approaches that don’t reduce drug use or drug-related harm. Waging the war on drugs has come at the expense of sustaining our nation’s treatment and health systems for people who struggle with addiction. Over time, our public health infrastructure has crumbled and evidence-based solutions like medication assisted treatment have been marginalized while drug-related arrests and incarceration rates have surged. The Comprehensive Addiction Resources Emergency (CARE) Act seeks to shift federal resource priorities where they belong by providing critical funding to boost our nation’s public health infrastructure’s ability to care for people who struggle with problematic drug use. Our treatment and health systems for people who use drugs have been neglected for far too long and the CARE Act would provide states and communities with the critical funding needed to reduce overdose and other drug-related harms.”

Grant Smith, deputy director of national affairs with the Drug Policy Alliance

ENDORSEMENTS

AIDS Healthcare Foundation

AIDS United

American Federation of Teachers

amfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research

Association for Behavioral Healthcare

Baltimore City Health Department

Big Cities Health Coalition

Brennan Center for Justice, NYU School of Law

Center for Popular Democracy Action

Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America

Drug Policy Alliance

Families USA

Harm Reduction Coalition

HIV Medicine Association

Human Rights Campaign

Massachusetts Medical Society

National Association of Counties

National Association of County & City Health Officials

National Alliance of State and Territorial AIDS Directors

National Council for Behavioral Health

National HIDTA Directors Association

National Indian Health Board

National Nurses United

Opioid Network

Public Citizen

Public Defenders Association

Seattle Indian Health Board

Society of Behavioral Medicine

Society for Public Health Education

United South and Eastern Tribes Sovereignty Protection Fund

United Way of Central Massachusetts

Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)