

December 5, 2017

The Honorable Paul Tonko
U.S. House of Representatives
2463 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Ben Ray Lujan
U.S. House of Representatives
2231 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives Tonko and Lujan,

The undersigned national mental health and substance use disorder organizations are writing today to express our support for H.R. 3692, the Addiction Treatment Access Improvement Act.

To make a meaningful and sustainable impact on the current opioid overdose epidemic, it is imperative that we build a robust treatment workforce. The Addiction Treatment Access Improvement Act makes great strides in doing so by codifying the Final Rule issued by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in July 2016 that raised the DATA 2000 patient limit for certain physicians to 275 patients with addiction, eliminating the sunset date for nurse practitioners' (NPs) and physician assistants' (PAs) prescribing authority for buprenorphine, and expanding the addiction treatment workforce to include all advance practice registered nurse specialties.

Thank you for your leadership on this important issue. We look forward to working with you to secure its passage.

Sincerely,

American Art Therapy Association
American Association for Psychoanalysis in Clinical Social Work
American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
American Group Psychotherapy Association
American Psychiatric Nurses Association
American Society of Addiction Medicine
Association for Ambulatory Behavioral Healthcare
Campaign for Trauma Informed Policy and Practice
Clinical Social Work Association
Global Alliance for Behavioral Health and Social Justice
National Association for Children's Behavioral Health
National Disability Rights Network
National Health Care for the Homeless Council
No Health without Mental Health
Treatment Communities of America