Reentry Act

Overdose Prevention Initiative

Effective addiction treatment is rarely available in jails and prisons.

- Nearly two-thirds of the incarcerated population has a substance use disorder, but just 12% of jails and prisons offer buprenorphine or methadone — effective treatments for opioid use disorder.
- The Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy prohibits federal funds and services from being used for inmate medical care, even when the individual is eligible for Medicaid or VA benefits. This forces state and local prisons to fund treatment without federal assistance.
- With federal benefits being terminated, it can take months for newly released inmates to reenroll and regain their benefits.

Incarcerated individuals with addiction are 40 times more likely to die of an overdose in the first two weeks after release than the general population.

The Reentry Act can save lives.

- The Reentry Act allows Medicaid-eligible individuals to resume receiving Medicaid benefits thirty days prior to their release.
- Allowing individuals to resume benefits prior to release, increases access to treatment, preventing the risk of future overdose and reducing the likelihood of recidivism.