By: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Introduced and read first time: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Assigned to: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

AN ACT concerning

Health Insurance –Medication-assisted treatment requirements

FOR the purpose of specifying carrier coverage requirements for medication-assisted treatment for drug or alcohol misuse.

BY repealing and reenacting with amendments

 Article – Insurance

 Section – 15-851

 Annotated Code of Maryland

(2011 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

That the laws of Maryland read as follows:

**Article — Insurance**

15-851

(a) (1)    This section applies to:

              (i)    insurers and nonprofit health service plans that provide coverage for substance use disorder benefits or prescription drugs under individual, group, or blanket health insurance policies or contracts that are issued or delivered in the State; and

             (ii)    health maintenance organizations that provide coverage for substance use disorder benefits or prescription drugs under individual or group contracts that are issued or delivered in the State.

          (2)    An insurer, a nonprofit health service plan, or a health maintenance organization that provides coverage for substance use disorder benefits under the medical benefit or for prescription drugs through a pharmacy benefits manager is subject to the requirements of this section.

(b)    An entity subject to this section may not apply a prior authorization requirement for a prescription drug:

         (1)    when used for treatment of an opioid use disorder; and

         (2)    that contains methadone, buprenorphine, or naltrexone.

**(C) AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION MAY NOT APPLY STEP THERAPY REQUIREMENTS FOR A PRESCRIPTION DRUG:**

 **(1) WHEN USED FOR TREATMENT OF AN OPIOID USE DISORDER; AND**

 **(2) THAT CONTAINS METHADONE, BUPRENORPHINE, OR NALTREXONE.**

**(D) AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION MUST PLACE PRESCRIPTION DRUGS ON THE LOWEST TIER OF THE FORMULARY DEVELOPED AND MAINTAINED BY THE ENTITY:**

 **(1) WHEN USED FOR THE TREATMENT OF AN OPIOID USE DISORDER; AND**

 **(2) THAT CONTAINS METHADONE, BUPRENORPHINE, OR NALTREXONE .**

**(E) AN ENTITY SUBJECT TO THIS SECTION MAY NOT DENY COVERAGE OF ANY PRESCRIPTION DRUGS OR ASSOCIATED COUNSELING OR WRAPAROUND SERVICES ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE DRUGS OR SERVICES ARE COURT ORDERED:**

 **(1) WHEN USED FOR THE TREATMENT OF AN OPIOID USE DISORDER; AND**

**(2) THAT CONTAIN METHADONE, BUPRENORPHINE, OR NALTREXONE.**

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 21 1, 2019.