

RESOLUTION

Subject: Preventing Medication Assisted Treatment Facilities from Opening in High Populated Areas and Around Churches, Schools, Playgrounds, and Areas Where Children Play

Submitted by: Bell County Medical Society

Referred to: Reference Committee

WHEREAS, the opiate crisis in Kentucky is a widespread problem that affects every community and nearly every family in Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, there are many treatment options available for drug treatment including behavioral and pharmacological, 12 step programs inpatient and outpatient rehab, as well as medical assisted treatment programs (MAT); and

WHEREAS, the overall success treatment rates for any type of treatment is dismally low in the US including treatment using methadone, suboxone, buprenorphine as substitution medication; and

WHEREAS, that currently existing methadone, buprenorphine and suboxone clinics are usually located in areas of high population densities in close proximity to local churches, schools, and areas where children walk and play; and

WHEREAS, these clinics negatively impact the local churches, schools, and neighborhoods by requiring as many as 300 drug addicts visit these clinics daily; and

WHEREAS, it is established that addiction to these drugs are more prevalent near these clinics due to the tremendous distribution of these drugs from a single facility; and

WHEREAS, school age children are frequently sold these medications on the street from addicts in the program; and

WHEREAS, it is the purpose of the KMA to support programs beneficial to not only its members but for the millions of citizens of Kentucky as well as our youth to promote real health choices that helps to eliminate drug addiction; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Kentucky Medical Association neither supports the growth of these medical assisted treatment facilities as it is currently structured, and that until further review of the impact MAT clinics create in the communities they are located in, the KMA does not support further growth and expansion of these and that the KMA recommends these clinics be at least confined to the more rural or lessor populated areas within our state.