

## RESOLUTION

Subject: Support For Prescribers of Medication for Opioid Use Disorder

Submitted by: Greater Louisville Medical Society

Referred to: Reference Committee

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WHEREAS, according to the 2024 Kentucky Drug Overdose Fatality Report, 1,410 Kentuckians lost their lives last year to a drug overdose<sup>1</sup>; and

WHEREAS, buprenorphine treatment<sup>2</sup> has been associated with an approximate 60% reduction in the risk of opioid-involved overdose death; and

WHEREAS, compared to other treatment interventions, Medications for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) pharmaceuticals such as buprenorphine, have the strongest evidence for decreasing the risk of overdose<sup>3</sup>; and

WHEREAS, the existence of a state regulation governing the prescribing of buprenorphine for opioid use disorder acts as a barrier to treatment access, as prescribers may fear disciplinary action by the medical board<sup>4</sup>; and

WHEREAS, Kentucky House Bill 788 was filed by Representative Kim Moser in February 2025<sup>5</sup> stating that when a Kentucky a physician uses professional judgement to prescribe, dispense, or administer a specific dosage regimen of Buprenorphine-Mono-Product or Buprenorphine-Combined-with-Naloxone that best meets the treatment needs of a patient, the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure shall not suspend, limit, or restrict a license or take other disciplinary action against that physician; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that KMA supports the intent of Kentucky House Bill 788, as filed by Representative Kim Moser in February 2025 in the Kentucky General Assembly; and be it further

RESOLVED, that KMA will support legislation similar to House Bill 788 if and when such a bill is filed in the 2026 Kentucky General Assembly.

**References:**

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1. Kentucky 2024 Drug Overdose Fatality Report, Kentucky Office of Drug Control Policy  
<https://odcp.ky.gov/Reports/2024%20Drug%20Overdose%20Fatality%20Report.pdf>
2. Buprenorphine After Nonfatal Opioid Overdose: Reduced Mortality Risk in Medicare Disability Beneficiaries. American Journal of Preventive Medicine. Vol 65, Issue 1, P19-29, July 2023 [https://www.ajpmonline.org/article/S0749-3797\(23\)00052-1/abstract#:~:text=Buprenorphine%20treatment%20after%20nonfatal%20opioid,of%20opioid%2Dinvolved%20overdose%20death](https://www.ajpmonline.org/article/S0749-3797(23)00052-1/abstract#:~:text=Buprenorphine%20treatment%20after%20nonfatal%20opioid,of%20opioid%2Dinvolved%20overdose%20death)
3. Position Statement on Access to Evidence-Based Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder Adopted by FSMB House of Delegates, April 2024 <https://www.fsmb.org/siteassets/advocacy/policies/position-statement-on-access-to-evidence-based-treatment.pdf>
4. Assessing Waivered and Non-Waivered Physician Barriers to Treating Patients With Substance Use Disorders: A Cross-Sectional Kentucky Pilot. Thompson RA, Johnson D, Kizewski AL, et al. Journal of Addictive Diseases. 2022 Oct-Dec;40(4):518-526. doi:10.1080/10550887.2022.2035167.
5. House Bill 788 <https://apps.legislature.ky.gov/record/25rs/hb788.html>