



# THE ASAM ADVOCATE

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## ADVOCACY HIGHLIGHTS



### NATIONAL

#### **Strengthening the Addiction Treatment Workforce and Improving Coverage for Addiction Treatment Emerge as Themes at Congressional Hearing**

On March 3, Dr. Shawn Ryan, the chair of ASAM's Legislative Advocacy Committee, discussed strengthening the addiction treatment workforce and improving coverage for addiction treatment

among other issues while testifying before the Subcommittee on Health of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

[Read More](#)

### **Bipartisan Opioid Task Force Releases 2020 Legislative Agenda**

On February 27, the U.S. House of Representatives' Bipartisan Opioid Task Force released its agenda for this legislative session, which covers a wide array of topics, from prevention and treatment to workforce development, criminal justice reform, and law enforcement.

[Read More](#)

## **STATE**

### **ORSAM Submits Comments on Oregon's Proposed 1115 Waiver Application**

On February 20, the Oregon Society of Addiction Medicine submitted comments on Oregon's 1115 waiver proposal application, which would waive the Medicaid IMD exclusion among other changes.

[Read More](#)

### **INSAM Supports Legislation to Strengthen Parity Enforcement**

On February 25, the Indiana Society of Addiction Medicine (INSAM) sent a letter to the Indiana House Committee on Insurance in support of SB208, which would make significant changes to Indiana's parity enforcement, among other things.

[Read More](#)

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## **HAPPENINGS ON THE GROUND**

### **ASAM Attends the American Medical Association's 2020 National Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C.**

On February 11, Ilse R. Levin, D.O., Chair, ASAM Delegation to the American Medical Association (AMA), and Kelly M. Corredor, ASAM's Vice President, Advocacy and



Government Relations, attended the AMA's 2020 National Advocacy Conference in Washington, D.C.

[Read More](#)



### **ASAM Board Member Dr. Anika Alvanzo Participates In Panel Discussion on the Opioid Epidemic**

On February 27, ASAM Board Member Dr. Anika Alvanzo stressed the importance of passing three critical pieces of legislation aimed at strengthening the addiction treatment workforce at a panel discussion hosted by The Hill.

[Read More](#)

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## **ADVOCACY MEMBER VOICES**



### **Trahan-Sponsored Opioid Legislation, The MATE Act, Subject of House Energy and Commerce Committee Hearing**

The chair of ASAM's Legislative Advocacy Committee, Dr. Shawn Ryan, as well as ASAM member Dr. James Baker urge passage of the MATE Act.

### **This State Has Figured Out How to Treat Inmates with Addiction**

Pew covers Rhode Island's approach to treating incarcerated individuals and speaks with ASAM member Dr. Corey Waller about his experience treating patients in corrections facilities.

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## **ADDICTION POLICY IN THE NEWS**



### **COVID-19 Guidance for Opioid Treatment Programs**

SAMHSA

### **AG Healey Reaches \$1 Million Settlement With 7 Companies To Increase Behavioral Health Access**

Deborah Becker, WBUR

### **Standards of Care – How to Appeal Denials of Coverage**

National Council for Behavioral Health

### **House Votes to Ban Flavored Tobacco to Curb Youth Vaping Epidemic**

Mike DeBonis, The Washington Post

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## **YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

**National Council on Behavioral Health to Host Webinar on Implementing MAT for Opioid Use Disorder in Jails and Prisons**

Click [here](#) to register for the webinar, which will also discuss the newly released toolkit, [Medication-Assisted Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder in Jails and Prisons](#).

## HRSA Accepting Applications for NHSC Loan Repayment Programs: One Application, Three Programs

Share [this link](#) to spread the word about the NHSC Loan Repayment Program, the NHSC SUD Workforce Loan Repayment Program, and the NHSC Rural Community Loan Repayment Program.

## SHARE ON TWITTER

Help [share](#) Representative Lori Trahan's tweet on the Energy and Commerce hearing on key addiction treatment workforce bills like the MATE Act!



Congresswoman Lori Trahan  
@RepLoriTrahan

Today, [@EnergyCommerce](#) considered a slate of bills to help patients w/ substance use disorders. Among them was the [#MATEAct](#) - legislation I introduced that will increase the number of physicians prepared to help prevent and treat addiction, & break down the stigma surrounding it.



## BEFORE YOU GO...

Help ASAM [thank](#) Dr. Shawn Ryan for Testifying to House Committee on Energy and Commerce About Addiction and Recovery to urge lawmakers to advance bills that would ensure the treatment of addiction is taught, standardized, and covered

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During the [@EnergyCommerce](#) hearing today, ASAM Legislative Advocacy Committee Chair [@DrShawnRyan1](#) urged lawmakers to advance bills that would ensure the treatment of addiction is taught, standardized, and covered. Learn more: [ow.ly/E2sk50yC5ue](https://ow.ly/E2sk50yC5ue)  
[#TreatAddictionSaveLives](#)



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