An Act Relative to Recovery Coach Licensure H2382 (Representative James O’Day and Liz Malia) and S1452 (Senator John Keenan) in Joint Committee on Healthcare Financing
https://malegislature.gov/Committees/Detail/J24

What it does:
The bill sets up a recovery coach licensure process with a board under the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Why it is important:
It creates a standardized, streamlined, and regulated licensing process for recovery coaches. It also promotes payer reimbursement, while ensuring those who advertise themselves as licensed recovery coaches are providing appropriate support and services.

An Act Relative to Treatment, Not Imprisonment, H1462 (Representative Ruth Balser) & S1035 (Senator Cindy Friedman) in Joint Committee on The Judiciary
https://malegislature.gov/Committees/Detail/J19/192

What it does:
Those who engage in recovery while on pretrial release or probation can no longer be incarcerated as punishment for solely having an interruption in recovery.

Why it is important:
It enhances public safety by making it more possible for people to authentically engage in treatment and communicate honestly with their providers without fear of imprisonment.

Invitation to Support Addiction Recovery

The MOAR Mission is to organize recovering individuals, families, and friends into a collective voice to educate the public about the value of recovery from alcohol and other addictions.

Approximately 5 People are Dying Every Day from Opioid Overdoses and Drug Addiction in Massachusetts!
If You Think the Following Might Help
Educate Your Elected Legislator by Email or Call
Go to www.wheredovotema.com
You will find out how to reach your elected senator and representative at the Massachusetts State House
An Act Ensuring Access to Addiction Services, H2066 (Representative Ruth Balser) and S1285 (Senator Cindy Friedman) in Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use, and Recovery
https://malegislature.gov/Committees/Detail/J24

What it does:
Guarantees that men civilly committed to addiction treatment under Section 35 be sent to a secure facility approved by the Department of Public Health or the Department of Mental Health.

Why it is important:
Currently, men civilly committed to addiction treatment under Section 35 can be sent to a facility run by the Department of Corrections even though they have been charged with no crime. We have the right to be treated by providers who value recovery and provide proper and evidence-based care.

An Act Providing Access to Full Spectrum of Addiction Treatment Services
H2116 (Representative Liz Malia) & S1292 (Senator John Keenan) Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use, & Recovery
https://malegislature.gov/Committees/Detail/J24

What it does:
Expands access to further treatment by requiring public and private insurance carriers to cover up to a total of 30 days of treatment, if the treating clinician deems the services are medically necessary.

Why it is important:
Under current law, up to 14 days is allowed. Many only have access to detoxification (ATS) and clinical stabilization (CSS) services. This is about the right to rapid and appropriate access and duration of care paid for by our health insurance.

An Act To authorize a 10-year pilot program for Supervised Consumption Sites (SCSs) in Massachusetts to Preventing Overdose Deaths and Increasing Access to Treatment,
S1271 (Julian Cyr) H2088 (Representative Marjorie Decker & Representative Dylan Fernandes)
https://malegislature.gov/Committees/Detail/J24

What it does:
The legislative proposal would authorize a 10-year pilot program for supervised consumption sites in Massachusetts. The legislation is narrowly crafted to allow municipalities the power to decide whether they want to pursue establishing an SCS legally clearing the way for that local decision while protecting potential staff and clients.

Why It is Important:
Supervised Consumptions (Injection) Sites are moving to save lives by establishing a supportive area for use of pre-acquired drugs surrounded by safety & care of trained peers & health professionals who provide connection, compassion & linkage to services.

Mental Health ABC Act 2.0: Addressing Barriers to Care S2584 (Senator Cindy Friedman) passed in Senate, now in House

What it does:
This legislative proposal sets the bar for ensuring that people get the mental health care they need when they need it.

Why it is Important:
Mental health parity as a concept is simple: Insurance coverage for mental health care should be equal to insurance coverage for any other medical condition. However, we often struggle to get the necessary coverage. This bill sets up a path for investigation of parity complaints to ensure timely resolution and penalties for lack of compliance.

Interested: Contact Maryanne Frangules, MOAR Executive Director, Call:  617-279-3395 or Email: Maryanne@moar-recovery.org
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