

Wilmington, Delaware
June 1, 2023

#0310

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
B. Fields**

Co-Sponsors:

**Council
Members
White
Mills
McCoy**

WHEREAS, House Bill No. 114 (HB No. 114), An Act to Amend Titles 16 and 25 of the Delaware Code Relating to Recovery Housing, proposes the certification of recovery residences according to nationally recognized evidence-based standards. This voluntary certification process will support recovery residences in their efforts to uphold best practices that address the needs of individuals rehabilitating from substance abuse disorder by providing a safe and supportive community and living environment; and

WHEREAS, substance abuse disorders continue to plague Delawareans statewide. There is an urgent need for high-quality recovery residences to support individuals suffering from substance use disorders to avoid relapse, criminal justice involvement, and overdose. Wilmington experienced an estimated 83.9 opioid overdose deaths per 100,000 in 2020. This number far exceeds the national average of 28.3 opioid overdose deaths per 100,000 in 2020 and 32.4 deaths per 100,000 in 2021; and

WHEREAS, in 2021, there were 515 overdose deaths in Delaware, an increase of 15% from 2020. In New Castle County, 334 lives were lost to overdoses in 2021. In May 2022, the Department of Health and Social Services (DHSS) announced that there were 42 overdose-related deaths in Delaware, which is a record high; 25 of those deaths occurred in New Castle County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that this Legislative body supports House Bill No. 114 (HB No. 114), An Act to Amend Titles 16 and 25 of the Delaware Code Relating to Recovery Housing, which proposes to enact the certification of recovery residences that align with nationally recognized

evidence-based standards. These guidelines will protect both recovery house residents and communities from the harm caused by poorly managed or fraudulent recovery residences.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Council encourages the Delaware General Assembly to support HB No. 114. This important provision ensures that Delawareans suffering from substance use disorders have access to a healthy and supportive environment that is suited to address the needs of their recovery.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution expresses support for House Bill No. 114 (HB No. 114), An Act to Amend Titles 16 and 25 of the Delaware Code Relating to Recovery Housing, proposes the certification of recovery residences according to nationally recognized evidence-based standards. This important provision ensures that Delawareans suffering from substance use disorders have access to a healthy and supportive environment that is suited to address the needs of their recovery.