

Reentry Act

H.R.2586

Overdose
Prevention
Initiative

What it does

Restores federal benefits for incarcerated individuals 30 days before release

How it prevents drug overdose

Allows jails and prisons to establish addiction treatment plans that continue after release from incarceration

Who is leading it

Reps. Mike Turner (R-OH-10) and Paul Tonko (D-NY-20)

Effective addiction treatment is rarely available in jails and prisons.

- Nearly two-thirds of the incarcerated population has a substance use disorder, but just 30% of jails and prisons offer buprenorphine and just 20% offer methadone — effective treatments for opioid use disorder.
- The Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy prohibits federal funds and services from being used for inmate medical care, even when the individual is eligible for Medicaid or VA benefits. This forces state and local prisons to fund treatment without federal assistance.
- With federal benefits being terminated, it can take months for newly released inmates to reenroll and regain their benefits.

Incarcerated individuals with addiction are 40 times more likely to die of an overdose in the first two weeks after release than the general population.

The Reentry Act can save lives and establish plans for continuous addiction treatment.

- The Reentry Act (H.R.2586) allows Medicaid-eligible individuals to resume receiving Medicaid benefits thirty days prior to their release.
- Allowing individuals to resume benefits prior to release, increases access to treatment, preventing the risk of future overdose and reducing the likelihood of recidivism.