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TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director 
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: July 19, 2024

RE: **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 4707**

Council Member President Pro Tempore James Tate requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a resolution urging the Michigan legislature to pass House Bills 4707

Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE JAMES TATE

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILL 4707

- WHEREAS,** On June of 2023, Representative Felicia Brabec introduced House Bill 4707 in the Michigan House of Representatives; and
- WHEREAS,** The bill, if passed, would amend the Insurance Code to require health insurers in Michigan to provide coverage for medically necessary treatment of a mental health or substance abuse disorder; and
- WHEREAS,** Currently, insurance providers are only required to provide coverage for both intermediate and outpatient care for substance abuse disorder, which HB 4707 expands to include medically necessary treatment by setting standards for care and requiring coverage for out-of-network services; and
- WHEREAS,** According to a 2022 report by Mental Health America, a leading national nonprofit dedicated to mental health prevention, 56% of American adults with a mental illness receive no treatment, 54% of adults with a mental illness did not receive treatment despite having health insurance; and almost 25% of all adults with a mental illness reported they were not able to receive the treatment they needed for various reasons including limited insurance coverage;¹ and
- WHEREAS,** There is a great need for mental health care in Michigan and Detroit, as 2023 survey data from the Kaiser Family Foundation showed that roughly 30% of adults in Michigan reported symptoms of anxiety and/or depressive disorder,² and 2021 survey data of Detroit Public Schools Community District students taken by the University of Michigan Department of Medicine showed shockingly high levels of anxiety, depression, and suicidal ideation;³ and
- WHEREAS,** There is also a growing need for substance abuse treatment, as instances of substance abuse disorders and drug overdoses rose drastically across the US during the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- WHEREAS,** According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, drug overdose deaths are on the rise nationally, increasing from less than 20,000 in 1999 to roughly 108,000 in 2022, and 2,993 people died of drug overdoses in Michigan in 2022;⁴ and
- WHEREAS,** Supporters of the bill argue that this legislation is necessary to address Michigan's mental health and addiction crisis, and that guaranteeing insurance coverage for these services would reduce the toll of a lack of treatment on child welfare systems and law enforcement, among other affected areas of society; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**
- RESOLVED,** The Detroit City Council strongly urges the Michigan legislature to pass House Bill 4707; **THEREFORE, BE IT FINALLY**
- RESOLVED,** That the Detroit City Clerk is directed to send this resolution to the Detroit delegations of both the Michigan State House and Senate, in addition to Governor Gretchen Whitmer.

¹ <https://mhanational.org/sites/default/files/2022%20State%20of%20Mental%20Health%20in%20America.pdf>

² <https://www.kff.org/statedata/mental-health-and-substance-use-state-fact-sheets/michigan/>

³ <https://www.michiganmedicine.org/health-lab/survey-assesses-student-mental-health-needs-detroit-schools>

⁴ <https://nida.nih.gov/research-topics/trends-statistics/overdose-death-rates>

