

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 870 Session of 2023

INTRODUCED BY D. WILLIAMS, BRENNAN, GUENST, HANBIDGE, HILL-  
EVANS, HOWARD, KHAN, KINSEY, KRAJEWSKI, MADDEN, OTTEN, RABB  
AND SANCHEZ, APRIL 10, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, APRIL 10, 2023

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 13, 1967 (P.L.31, No.21), entitled "An  
2 act to consolidate, editorially revise, and codify the public  
3 welfare laws of the Commonwealth," in public assistance,  
4 further providing for reimbursement for certain medical  
5 assistance items and services.

6 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
7 hereby enacts as follows:

8 Section 1. Section 443.6 of the act of June 13, 1967  
9 (P.L.31, No.21), known as the Human Services Code, is amended by  
10 adding a subsection to read:

11 Section 443.6. Reimbursement for Certain Medical Assistance  
12 Items and Services.--\* \* \*

13 (h) (1) The use or prior authorization for medication-  
14 assisted treatment or medication-assisted treatment approved  
15 drugs, including buprenorphine, methadone, naltrexone or any  
16 other drug approved by the United States Food and Drug  
17 Administration, is prohibited.

18 (2) As used in this subsection, the following words and  
19 phrases shall have the meanings given to them in this paragraph:

1 "Controlled substance." As defined in section 2 of the act  
2 of April 14, 1972 (P.L.233, No.64), known as "The Controlled  
3 Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act."

4 "Drug." As defined in section 2 of "The Controlled  
5 Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act."

6 "Medication-assisted treatment." The use of medication  
7 approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration, in  
8 combination with counseling and behavioral therapies, to treat  
9 substance use disorder.

10 "Substance use disorder." A chronic, relapsing medical  
11 illness characterized by recurrent use of a drug or controlled  
12 substance despite harmful consequences, long-lasting changes in  
13 brain chemistry, clinically significant impairment, including  
14 physical or mental health problems or disability or the  
15 inability or failure to meet the demands of and responsibilities  
16 at work, school or home.

17 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.