

Committees:

Vice Chair,
Armed Services and Veterans Affairs
Economic and Workforce Development
Energy and Natural Resources
Infrastructure and Rural Development



Contact Information:

Office: 614-466-3488
Email: rep63@ohiohouse.gov
77 S. High Street 11th Floor, Columbus,
Ohio 43215-6111

**Representative Mike Loychik
The Ohio House of Representatives**

HB 413 – Rep. Mike Loychik, Sponsor Testimony, November 18th, 2021

Chair Carruthers, Vice Chair Pavliga, Ranking Member Boyd, and Members of the House Behavioral Health and Recovery Supports Committee thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 413.

According to preliminary data from the CDC, there was a 30% rise in drug overdose deaths from 2019 to 2020. Yet we do not have a clear picture of the trends of addiction services and recovery during the same time period; did utilization of addiction services increase, decrease, or stabilize during 2020? This is data that would be helpful to know as we work to curb the drug epidemic and support recovery here in Ohio.

Currently, with the data that is being collected, we are not getting the full picture regarding drug and addiction services. This bill expands what information the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services is required to collect to include things such as, but limited to, capacity, new vs returning patients, characteristics of the patients, time spent in rehab, number of relapses, cost to the state, etc. this information will provide us with a superior picture of addiction services and recovery supports in Ohio.

It additionally expands who the Department is collecting this data from to include all addiction service providers in the state, not just community addiction service providers. This will ensure a complete view of addiction services the state.

Finally, the bill requires that the Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services send out quarterly and annual reports to the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Alcohol, Drug, and Mental Health Boards along with it being publically available online.

This transparency of information is going to assist both public officials and the public to stay on top of this crisis and be informed. With the data being more readily available, my hope is it will spark more efficient action on addressing this epidemic to bring these death rates down, and ensure adequate access to recovery supports.

Thank you once gain for this opportunity to provide testimony on HB 413. I would also like to thank my legislative aide Lew Lainhart for his work on this bill. I am happy to answer any questions at this time.