

**As Introduced**

**135th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2023-2024**

**H. B. No. 300**

**Representatives Baker, Ray**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Brennan, Grim, Isaacsohn, Miranda, Dell'Aquila,  
Hillyer, Manning, Robb Blasdel**

---

**A BILL**

To establish a pilot program for remote treatment 1  
of opioid use disorder and to make an 2  
appropriation. 3

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** (A) As used in this section, "opioid treatment 4  
program" has the same meaning as in section 5119.01 of the 5  
Revised Code. 6

(B) Not later than sixty days after the effective date of 7  
this section, the Department of Mental Health and Addiction 8  
Services shall establish a pilot program to provide grant 9  
funding for the provision of remote methadone treatment, through 10  
opioid treatment programs licensed under section 5119.37 of the 11  
Revised Code, to individuals with opioid use disorder. The pilot 12  
program shall operate during fiscal year 2024 and fiscal year 13  
2025. The Department shall ensure that the pilot program and 14  
participating opioid treatment programs are in compliance with 15  
all federal and state laws, regulations, and rules concerning 16  
take-home methadone dosing. 17

(C) Any opioid treatment program licensed under section 18  
5119.37 of the Revised Code may apply to the Department for 19  
consideration to participate in the pilot program, and the 20  
Department shall provide notice to all licensed opioid treatment 21  
programs of the opportunity to apply. From the applicants, the 22  
Department shall select up to ten opioid treatment programs to 23  
participate in the pilot program, and those that are selected 24  
shall receive grant funding through the pilot program. The 25  
Department shall use its best efforts to ensure that selected 26  
opioid treatment programs represent varied geographic areas 27  
across this state. 28

(D) Each opioid treatment program that is selected to 29  
participate in the pilot program shall procure a remote 30  
methadone treatment vendor. The Department shall create a list 31  
of possible vendors that use or offer all of the following 32  
accessibility and security requirements: 33

(1) Browser-based applications and non-local stream 34  
recording; 35

(2) Asynchronous audio-visual dosing sessions; 36

(3) Patient-clinician communication and at least monthly 37  
patient check-ins; 38

(4) Combined physical and digital bottle-tamper awareness; 39

(5) Unique dose identifiers; 40

(6) Data aggregation capabilities and performance of 41  
monthly documentation; 42

(7) Equity-focused design and inclusive implementation 43  
protocols, including by minimizing patient literacy barriers; 44

(8) High-tier security measures that are compliant with 45

the "Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 46  
1996," 42 U.S.C. 1320d et seq., and the regulations adopted 47  
thereunder; 48

(9) Customer support. 49

(E) Opioid treatment programs that are selected to 50  
participate in the pilot program shall provide, and the 51  
Department shall collect from those participants, data on 52  
patient outcomes, including information regarding time in 53  
treatment, patient retention, and realized reductions in 54  
medication transportation costs as compared to in-person dosing. 55

Not later than six months after the conclusion of the 56  
pilot program, the Department shall complete a report on the 57  
information collected and findings from the pilot program. On 58  
completion, the Department shall submit the report to the 59  
Governor and to the General Assembly. The Department shall 60  
submit the report to the General Assembly in accordance with 61  
section 101.68 of the Revised Code. 62

**Section 2.** All items in this act are hereby appropriated 63  
as designated out of any moneys in the state treasury to the 64  
credit of the designated fund. For all operating appropriations 65  
made in this act, those in the first column are for fiscal year 66  
2024 and those in the second column are for fiscal year 2025. 67  
The operating appropriations made in this act are in addition to 68  
any other operating appropriations made for these fiscal years. 69

**Section 3.** 70

71

A	MHA DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES				
B	General Revenue Fund				
C	GRF	336519	Community Projects	\$750,000	\$750,000
D	TOTAL GRF General Revenue Fund			\$750,000	\$750,000
E	TOTAL ALL BUDGET FUND GROUPS			\$750,000	\$750,000

COMMUNITY PROJECTS 72

The foregoing appropriation item 336519, Community 73  
Projects, shall be used to operate the pilot program for remote 74  
treatment of opioid use disorder established under Section 1 of 75  
this act. 76

**Section 4.** Within the limits set forth in this act, the 77  
Director of Budget and Management shall establish accounts 78  
indicating the source and amount of funds for each appropriation 79  
made in this act, and shall determine the manner in which 80  
appropriation accounts shall be maintained. Expenditures from 81  
operating appropriations contained in this act shall be 82  
accounted for as though made in, and are subject to all 83  
applicable provisions of, H.B. 33 of the 135th General Assembly. 84