

**Council of the District of Columbia
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH
NOTICE OF JOINT PUBLIC HEARING
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004**

**COUNCILMEMBER CHARLES ALLEN, CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY & PUBLIC SAFETY**

AND

**COUNCILMEMBER VINCENT GRAY, CHAIRPERSON
COMMITTEE ON HEALTH**

ANNOUNCE A JOINT PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER

BILL 22-0458, THE “OPIOID OVERDOSE PREVENTION ACT OF 2017”

AND

BILL 22-0459, THE “OPIOID ABUSE TREATMENT ACT OF 2017”

**Thursday, December 14, 2017, 1:00 p.m.
Room 412, John A. Wilson Building
1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004**

On Thursday, December 14, 2017, Councilmember Charles Allen, Chairperson of the Committee on the Judiciary and Public Safety, and Councilmember Vincent Gray, Chairperson of the Committee on Health, will hold a joint public hearing to consider Bill 22-0458, the “Opioid Overdose Prevention Act of 2017”, and Bill 22-0459, and the “Opioid Abuse Treatment Act of 2017”. The hearing will take place in Room 412 of the John A. Wilson Building, 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., at 1:00 p.m.

The stated purpose of Bill 22-0458, the “Opioid Overdose Prevention Act of 2017”, is to require the Metropolitan Police Department to provide opioid antagonist rescue kits for sworn personnel in order to prevent potential overdose deaths; to require the Metropolitan Police Department to provide training for all sworn personnel; and to allow for the voluntary surrender of opiates and drug paraphernalia at Metropolitan Police Department stations.

The stated purpose of Bill 22-0459, the “Opioid Abuse Treatment Act of 2017”, is to improve treatment for substance use disorders by requiring every health plan to transmit upon request a

list of all in-network providers that treat opiate use disorders, along with their contact information; requiring the Department of Health Care Finance to determine the feasibility of expanding opioid use disorder medication offerings in methadone clinics; requiring a study on appropriate reimbursement levels for substance abuse treatment; requiring that all currently approved forms of medication-assisted therapies prescribed for substance abuse disorders are covered without any utilization control such as a prior authorization or step therapy; requiring high-rate opioid prescribers to participate in training; requiring the Department of Corrections' Medical Director to have experience with opioid treatment; requiring that the Department of Corrections ensure individuals receiving treatment for opioid addiction prior to entering a Department of Corrections facility continue to receive that treatment; establishing a fatality review team at the Department of Behavioral Health to review all overdose deaths in the District; requiring health care facilities to make the services of at least one health care provider who is trained and authorized under federal law to prescribe opioid addiction treatment medications; and requiring hospitals to establish discharge protocols for individuals identified as having a substance abuse disorder.

The Committees invite the public to testify or to submit written testimony. Anyone wishing to testify at the hearing should contact the Committee on the Judiciary & Public Safety via email at judiciary@dccouncil.us or at (202) 727-8275, and provide their name, telephone number, organizational affiliation, and title (if any), by **close of business Friday, December 8.** Representatives of organizations will be allowed a maximum of five minutes for oral testimony, and individuals will be allowed a maximum of three minutes. Witnesses are encouraged to bring **twenty single-sided copies** of their written testimony and, if possible, also submit a copy of their testimony electronically in advance to judiciary@dccouncil.us.

For witnesses who are unable to testify at the hearing, written statements will be made part of the official record. Copies of written statements should be submitted to the Committee on the Judiciary & Public Safety at judiciary@dccouncil.us or to Nyasha Smith, Secretary to the Council, 1350 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Suite 5, Washington, D.C. 20004. **The record will close at the end of the business day on December 28.**