

Please post re H.684. Thanks.

From: Laurie Hanson <lotty@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, March 16, 2018 6:41 PM
To: Maida Townsend
Subject: Acupuncture Detoxification Technicians

Dear Senator Jeanette White and Representative Maida Townsend,

I oppose the repeal of section 3412 of bill H.684 which would prevent acupuncture detoxification technicians (ADTs) from working with those individuals struggling with addiction.

I am a registered nurse, mother, massage therapist and concerned citizen who believes that using ADTs to assist individuals struggling with opioid addiction is an incredible benefit to this community. My patients are those individuals who are receiving medically assisted treatment to manage their addictions, and there is a huge need for more treatment options for this population.

This very same bill (H.684) lowers the requirements necessary to become a licensed alcohol and drug counselor (LADC) in the hopes of creating more therapists who are able to provide more services. Why would we then simultaneously limit access to another valuable non-pharmacological treatment option for struggling Vermonters?

I would hope that we could encourage more people to become ADTs in order to help our community during this horrible opioid crisis. The NADA protocol decreases anxiety and diminishes detoxification symptoms and cravings. Most importantly it helps build community.

The opposite of addiction is not sobriety. The opposite of addiction is human connection and community. Let's help our community and increase the number of ADTs. Let's help get people who want this treatment the care they need.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely

Laurie Hanson, RN

Cc Sen. Claire Ayer
Cc Sen. Ann Cummings
Cc Sen. Virginia Lyons

Cc Lt. Gov. David Zuckerman