



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness (ABHW) Applauds the Passage of the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act of 2025

Washington, D.C. – The Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness (ABHW), the national voice for payers that manage behavioral health insurance benefits for 200 million people, applauds the U.S. Senate for passing the SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act of 2025 (“SUPPORT Act”) under unanimous consent. The SUPPORT Act will strengthen access to life-saving treatment and is critical to effectively addressing substance use disorders (SUDs) and co-occurring mental health conditions. Its policies and provisions will continue to embrace prevention, treatment, and a pathway to recovery.

“Almost 50 million people aged 12 and older have dealt with substance use disorders within the past year, yet only one in five individuals receive treatment,” said ABHW President and CEO Debbie Withey. “While there has been progress to reduce overdose deaths, reauthorizing the SUPPORT Act is critical to continuing this progress. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention projects over 80,000 overdose deaths for 2024, with Black, American Indian, and Alaska Native people having the highest overdose death rates and limited access to treatment. We applaud the Senate for passing the SUPPORT Act, which will strengthen access to life-saving treatment for all individuals seeking help.”

ABHW members are dedicated to ending the opioid epidemic and support evidence-based, person-centered care to treat individuals with SUDs. We are grateful for the Senate passing the SUPPORT Act so that people can get access to the treatment they need.

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ABOUT THE ASSOCIATION FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND WELLNESS

ABHW is the leading health plan association working to improve access and quality of care for mental health and substance use disorders. ABHW's members include national and regional health plans that care for 200 million people. Together, we work to reduce stigma and advance federal policy on mental health and substance use disorder care. ABHW member companies – Aetna, a CVS Health Company; CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield; Carelon Behavioral Health, an Elevance Health Company; Centene Corporation; Evernorth; Kaiser Permanente; Lucet; Magellan Health; Molina Healthcare; Optum; and PerformCare, a subsidiary of AmeriHealth Caritas. To learn more, visit www.abhw.org and follow us on X and LinkedIn.