
PARTNERSHIP TO AMEND 42 CFR PART 2

March 6, 2018

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Partnership to Amend 42 CFR Part 2 Recognizes Senator Whitehouse's Strong Leadership in Addressing Opioid Epidemic

Washington, DC (March 6, 2018) – The Partnership to Amend 42 CFR Part 2 (Partnership), a coalition of over 40 health care organizations committed to aligning 42 CFR Part 2 with HIPAA, today issued the following statement:

The Partnership recognizes Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI) as a leading voice on improved treatment for people with Opioid Use Disorder (OUD) in the United States Senate. We applaud Senator Whitehouse for recently joining Senator Joseph Manchin (R-WV) and Senator Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV) in leading legislative efforts to update an out-of-date, 1970s-era privacy statute in an effort to align 42 CFR Part 2 (Part 2) with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) for the purposes of health care treatment, payment, and operations (TPO), through The Protecting Jessica Grubb's Legacy Act (The Legacy Act), S. 1850.

“We are pleased that The Legacy Act would align Part 2 with HIPAA's consent requirements for the purposes of TPO, which will allow for the appropriate sharing of substance use disorder records to ensure persons with opioid use disorder and other substance use disorders receive the integrated care they need. Additionally, as we do not want patients with substance use disorders to be made vulnerable as a result of seeking treatment for addiction, this legislation strengthens protections of their records,” stated Rebecca Murow Klein, Chair, Partnership to Amend 42 CFR Part 2, and Director of Government Affairs, Association for Behavioral Health and Wellness.

Senator Whitehouse fought for approval of the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016 (P.L. 114-198) and has just introduced the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2018, also known as CARA 2.0, with Senator Rob Portman (R-OH). Given his history, Senator Whitehouse continues to fight for improved services for people with substance use disorder (SUD), which can only be achieved through additional resources for treatment services, as well as improved care coordination. S. 1850 facilitates integrated services addressing both opioid addiction and comorbid conditions.

We thank Senators Manchin, Capito, Angus, Donnelly, Feinstein, Harris, King, Klobuchar, Rounds, Tillis, and Whitehouse for leading the effort and look forward to advancing this important bipartisan legislation.

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<http://www.helpendopioidcrisis.org/>

Members of The Partnership to Amend 42 CFR Part 2 include:

Academy of Managed Care Pharmacy · Alliance of Community Health Plans · American Association on Health and Disability · American Dance Therapy Association · American Health Information Management Association · American Hospital Association · American Psychiatric Association · American Society of Addiction Medicine · American Society of Anesthesiologists · America's Essential Hospitals · America's

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