

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515-1902**

March 25, 2016

The Honorable Paul Ryan  
Speaker of the House of Representatives  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan,

I write to urge you to bring H.R. 953, the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA) to the House floor for a vote. One of the most serious problems impacting Maine and America is the heroin and opioid epidemic that is taking the lives of hundreds of people and causing unthinkable harm to our families, friends and communities.

This important bipartisan legislation was introduced by Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner and would provide emergency federal funding and other needed resources for Maine, along with a number of other states that are in desperate need to curtail this drug epidemic. As our law enforcement agencies, treatment centers, social service networks and families work together to curb this dangerous and deadly drug problem, this legislation would provide critical steps to help end this tragedy. It would establish a comprehensive and coordinated approach through enhanced grant programs that would expand prevention and education efforts while also promoting treatment and recovery.

The Senate passed its version of the CARA Act on March 10, 2016 by a vote of 94-1. It is now time for the House to act so that we can pass this crucial legislation and send it to the President's desk for signature. Doing so will boost the efforts of our Maine families to better help their addicted loved ones with the treatment and long-term recovery to live drug-free and healthy lives.

Again, I urge you to bring the CARA Act to the House floor. On behalf of all the Maine victims of this terrible and heartbreaking epidemic, I thank you for your consideration of this request.

Thank you,



Bruce Poliquin  
Member of Congress