



Advocacy | Education | Community
Pennsylvania District Branch of the American Psychiatric Association

November 12, 2025

Re: PSAM & PaPS Support for HB 1974, Establishing a Contingency Management Support Grant Program

Dear Leader Matthew Bradford and Leader Jesse Topper,

On behalf of the Pennsylvania Society of Addiction Medicine (PSAM) and the Pennsylvania Psychiatry Society (PaPS), the leading Pennsylvania medical specialty societies respectively representing addiction treatment specialists and psychiatrists, thank you for your work to ensure that addiction treatment is accessible to all Pennsylvanians. **We write today to express our strong support for HB 1974.** This important legislation would create a new grant program to assist counties in establishing contingency management programs for the treatment of stimulant use disorder.

A growing number of people in our Commonwealth are negatively impacted by stimulant misuse and stimulant use disorder. According to estimates, overdose deaths involving stimulants and stimulants paired with opioids have been increasing in recent years.ⁱ To confront this emerging public health threat we must expand evidence-based treatment for stimulant use disorder, for which there are no medications currently approved by the FDA. Contingency management is a gold standard treatment for stimulant use disorder.ⁱⁱ Specifically, contingency management provides small non-cash rewards (like grocery gift cards or bus tickets) for positive behaviors like attending appointments or having negative drug screens. While the method may seem unorthodox, contingency management is a cost-effective form of treatment, which significantly reduces the negative health outcomes related to stimulant use disorder.^{iii iv}

Improving access to contingency management across our Commonwealth is an intelligent and fiscally prudent policy. While contingency management has proven effective, it is difficult to scale because it falls outside of traditional insurance-based reimbursement models. As such, enhancing collaboration between state and county agencies is a promising solution. HB 1974 would provide financial support to counties to support staff training, drug-testing supplies, incentive tracking systems, evaluation, and non-cash incentives for contingency management programs. This financial support from state agencies would allow programs to build capacity and expand their reach. Ultimately, HB 1974 would be an essential first step towards expanding access to contingency management throughout the Commonwealth and addressing the threat posed by stimulant use disorder.

HB 1974 is sensible, bipartisan legislation that would enhance access to treatment for stimulant use disorder in Pennsylvania. PSAM is proud to support this bill and thanks its sponsors for their

leadership. **We urge you to bring HB 1974 forward for a full floor vote as soon as possible and support its passage.** Thank you for considering our perspective.

Sincerely,



James R. Latronica, DO, DFASAM
President
Pennsylvania Society of Addiction Medicine
E: james.r.latronica@gmail.com
C: (330) 416-4077
Web: www.psam-asam.org



Robert A. Tessier, MD, MPH
Public Policy Committee Chair
Pennsylvania Society of Addiction Medicine



Kavita Fischer, MD, DFAPA
President
Pennsylvania Psychiatric Society (PaPS)
Email: fischerk6@ccbh.com
Phone: 412.818.2365
Web: www.papsych.org



Kenneth Certa, MD, DLFAPA
Government Relations Chair
Pennsylvania Psychiatric Society (PaPS)