

Edward Krumpotich  
Consultant: National Harm Reduction Coalition  
Re: 2847 Support (Sober Homes)

To whom it may concern:

Sober Homes are both the part of the solution and part of the problem. A lack of residence oversight to minimally protect basic resident needs has not been resolved. Residents need protections, and a basic oversight system that includes access to the ombudsman and other entities would be helpful.

A statewide referral structure is needed to create broad access to a system that is restricted to business partnerships and unethical disclosures. Vulnerable residents recently out of treatment are a disabled populous and yet remain unprotected by a lack of regulation.

These homes must begin to carry naloxone, train house managers in mental health crisis, elucidate financial disclosures with partners and agents and permit an array of recovery paths. Furthermore, residents pay exorbitant amounts for rent and 'sober deposits' with little recourse if discharged from the home.

Foundations like the Pink Cloud Foundation have made huge impacts to access funds for residents, but their heroic effort is not enough. These homes are certainly lifesavers, but for home expansion there must be a certification process through a body that can meet civil liberty protections.

As currently implemented, sober homes and their governing bodies, who have purview over the organizational subsidiaries, can restrict physician prescribed medications for ANY reason. While this mostly targets scheduled medications that assist in recovery like Methadone, Suboxone and Adderall, it is not unusual to see homes restrict Mental and Physical Health Medications that fall outside of scheduling altogether.

This is an American with Disabilities act nightmare.

Sober homes save lives, but they need help. The state must step in and work together to build access to our cultural communities and protect our residents.

I strongly support HF2847.

Edward Krumpotich  
Former Sober Home Resident  
Co-bill writer and stakeholder