

CO-SPONSORSHIP MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members

From: Representative MaryLouise Isaacson

Date: December 2, 2020

Subject: Opioid Reparation and Accountability Fund

According to the National Institute on Drug Abuse, almost 130 Americans die each day from an opioid overdose, resulting in over 47,000 overdoses in 2017 alone. The actions of opioid manufacturers and distributors have played a key role in the over-prescription, misuse and abuse of dangerous opioids that has resulted in the opioid crisis. However, while families, communities, and Pennsylvania as a whole have paid a significant price during the opioid crisis, both in dollars and in the tragic loss of life, the pharmaceutical industry has yet to be held responsible.

For this reason, I will be introducing legislation that would establish an opioid product registration fee and an additional assessment on large-scale opioid manufacturers. The proceeds would be directed to the Opioid Reparation and Accountability Fund, which would address the opioid epidemic through programs focused on prevention and education as well as intervention, treatment, and recovery. This legislation would not only hold these companies accountable, but it would make them a part of the solution.

Please join me in working to reduce opioid addiction and save lives.