



Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC)
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MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 29, 2019

TO: The Honorable Members of the Delaware General Assembly

FROM: Ann C. Fisher, Chairperson
GACEC

RE: House Bill No. 61 Update to Uniform Controlled Substances Act with
Regard to Benzodiazepines

The Governor's Advisory Council for Exceptional Citizens (GACEC) has reviewed House Bill No. 61 which will add additional benzodiazepine drugs by name and add the category of benzodiazepine drugs to Schedule IV of the Uniform Controlled Substances Act. This change will ensure that all current and future benzodiazepine drugs are included on Schedule IV in Delaware, whether or not the specific drug is approved for medical use in the United States. Council endorses the addition of these new drugs to Schedule IV.

These drugs are commonly used to treat a variety of medical conditions including anxiety, seizures, and alcohol withdrawal. Some of the new drugs are sold as "designer drugs" that individuals can use to mimic the effects of illegal drugs while attempting to stay ahead of the government's ability to classify the drugs as illegal or attempting to avoid detection on drug tests. Classifying these drugs as Schedule IV will allow the government to properly regulate them, as they currently do with the benzodiazepines covered under the current law.

Thank you for your time and consideration of our endorsement. Please feel free to contact me or Wendy Strauss at the GACEC office should you have any questions.