



**P.O. BOX 609 LINKWOOD, MD 21835-0609**

**January 18, 2010**

**Delegate Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio**

**216 Lowe House Office Building**

**Annapolis, MD 21401**

**Dear Delegate Haddaway-Riccio,**

**The Maryland Association of Prevention and Advocates (MAPPA) is a statewide professional organization whose members work in the field of addiction and other prevention services. MAPPA supports House Bill 13, which would prohibit a person from distributing Salvia Divinorum or Salvinorin A to an individual under the age of 21 years; prohibiting a person under the age of 21 years from possessing Salvia Divinorum or Salvinorin A; establishing that a specified violation is a Code violation; establishing penalties for a violation of the Act; etc.**

**The members of MAPPA are very concerned about the easy access that Maryland's youth have to Salvia. As you know, Salvia has previously been for sale in many places on the boardwalk in Ocean City.**

**Many regions of the State have unacceptably high rates of substance abuse among its youth; higher than the national average. A drug that is so easily available only adds to this serious problem.**

**MAPPA encourages the House of Delegates to pass HB13. This will send a strong message to users or potential users that this is a dangerous hallucinogenic drug.**

**Thank you for your consideration.**

**Sincerely,**

*Vernon Spriggs*

**Vernon Spriggs, President  
MAPPA**