

# THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Justice in Every Borough.

October 7, 2021

Redmond Haskins  
The Legal Aid Society  
[rhaskins@legal-aid.org](mailto:rhaskins@legal-aid.org)  
(929) 441-2384

**\*\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\***

## ***Legal Aid Praises Governor Hochul for Signing Legislation to Provide Life-Saving Medication to Incarcerated People***

**(NEW YORK, NY) – Kayla Simpson, Staff Attorney with the Prisoners’ Rights Project at The Legal Aid Society,** issued the following statement in response to Governor Kathy Hochul signing legislation (S1795/A533) that will make medications for opioid use disorder (MOUD), including methadone and buprenorphine, available in all state and local correctional facilities:

"For too long, our clients incarcerated in state prisons have been denied access to medications that are widely recognized to be the standard of care for opioid use disorder. This barrier to treatment access has long forced our clients into needless suffering, destabilizing disruptions to their recovery, and serious risk of overdose and death. This legislation is a critical public health measure, allowing doctors to utilize treatment for incarcerated patients that will simply save lives. The Legal Aid Society thanks Senator Jamaal Bailey and Assembly Member Linda Rosenthal for their courageous leadership in steering this legislation and we commend Governor Kathy Hochul for signing the bill into law."

###

*The Legal Aid Society exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For over 140 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities. [www.legalaidnyc.org](http://www.legalaidnyc.org)*