



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  
550 S. VERMONT AVE., LOS ANGELES, CA 90020 HTTP://DMH.LACOUNTY.GOV



MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, D.S.W.  
Director  
ROBIN KAY, Ph.D.,  
Chief Deputy Director  
RODERICK SHANER, M.D.  
Medical Director

## ADOPTED

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

13 November 25, 2014

*Sachi A. Hamai*  
SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

November 18, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AUTHORIZATION FOR FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF ASSEMBLY BILL 1421 "LAURA'S LAW" IN  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY  
AND TO FILL ORDINANCE POSITIONS  
AND  
APPROVAL OF AN APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2014-15  
(ALL SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICTS)  
(4 VOTES)**

### **SUBJECT**

Request authorization to: 1) fully implement the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Demonstration Project, known as "Laura's Law," in Los Angeles County; 2) sign and execute a resolution authorizing the full implementation of Laura's Law; 3) fill 18 ordinance positions for the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Program; and 4) approve an Appropriation Adjustment for Fiscal Year 2014-15; and 5) take such actions as are necessary and reasonable regarding State Department of Health Care Services data reporting requests and other related review elements of the State Demonstration Project established by Laura's Law.

### **IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

1. Authorize the full implementation of all components of Laura's Law in Los Angeles County and direct that no voluntary programs serving adults, and no children's mental health programs may be reduced as a result of implementation of Laura's Law.
2. Adopt and instruct the Chairman of your Board to sign and execute the attached Resolution (Attachment I) for full implementation of Laura's Law and make a finding that no voluntary mental

health programs serving adults, and no children's mental health programs, may be reduced as a result of implementing Laura's Law.

3. Authorize the Department of Mental Health (DMH) to fill 18 ordinance Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions (Attachment II), in excess of what is provided in the Department's staffing ordinance, and subject to allocation by the Chief Executive Office, for the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Program for Los Angeles ("AOT-LA."). This action will be taken pursuant to Section 6.06.020 of the County Code.

4. Approve the Request for an Appropriation Adjustment (Attachment III) for FY2014-15 in the amount of \$1,619,000 to increase Salaries and Employee Benefits (S&EB) in the amount of \$1,153,000; Services and Supplies (S&S) in the amount of \$366,000; and Capital Assets in the amount of \$100,000 to provide spending authority for AOT-LA. The Appropriation Adjustment is fully funded with State MHSA revenue.

5. Authorize DMH to take such actions as are necessary and reasonable regarding State Department of Health Care Services (SDHCS) data reporting requests and other related review elements of the State Demonstration Project established by Laura's Law.

#### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Board approval of the recommended actions will authorize the full implementation of Laura's Law in Los Angeles County. Funding for DMH to provide AOT services was included in the MHSA Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan adopted by your Board on July 15, 2014.

The expansion of AOT services will be accomplished by creating two intensive outreach and engagement teams with the capacity to evaluate and outreach to 500 additional clients per year and to initiate petitions with the court, as necessary; expanding the capacity by 300 additional slots for Full Service Partnership treatment providers to provide time-limited intensive AOT; expanding the capacity by 60 additional beds for IMD Step-Down Program providers to provide residential treatment for AOT-LA clients who require that level of care; and by establishing an Oversight Committee comprised of the Mental Health Commission, DMH staff, and key community stakeholders.

#### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The recommended actions support the County's Strategic Plan Goal 3, Integrated Services Delivery.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The Request for Appropriation Adjustment for FY 2014-15, in the amount of \$1,619,000 will increase S&EB in the amount of \$1,153,000, S&S in the amount of \$366,000 and Capital Assets in the amount of \$100,000 to provide spending authority for the implementation of AOT-LA. The Appropriation Adjustment is fully funded with State MHSA revenue. Annualized funding for future years will be requested in the annual budget process.

The total annual cost to implement AOT-LA is \$10,032,000. This includes \$1,619,000 for the 18 FTE positions and \$8,413,000 for mental health services to be provided by DMH contracted

agencies identified to deliver FSP services through an upcoming solicitation process. This cost is fully funded with State MHSA revenue of \$5,312,000 and Federal Financial Participation Medi-Cal of \$4,720,000.

There is no net County cost associated with these recommended actions.

## **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

Assembly Bill (AB) 1421 (Thomson, Chapter 1017, Statutes of 2002) established the AOT Demonstration Project Act of 2002 (Act), known as Laura's Law. Laura's Law provides a mechanism for counties to identify adults with serious mental illness and a history of treatment non-compliance who are at substantial risk for deterioration and/or detention under California Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) 5150 whose deterioration could be mitigated by mandated acceptance of appropriate services.

On January 16, 2003, your Board resolved to partially implement Laura's Law, within existing resources until funding for full implementation could be identified. Beginning in 2003, the County implemented a pilot AOT program under the voluntary agreement for services portion of Laura's Law. DMH contracted with a service provider with a capacity to serve 15 individuals every six months.

In February 18, 2004, Protection and Advocacy, Inc. filed litigation on behalf of the California Network of Mental Health Clients challenging the program. In September 2005, the case was voluntarily dismissed after a settlement agreement was reached requiring the County to make technical revisions to its petition format and to provide notice to plaintiffs in the event program capacity exceeded 50 individuals or any involuntary component were implemented. Although the settlement agreement expired in 2008, due to funding reductions, the program was discontinued in 2008. In 2010, the voluntary AOT program was re-established to serve up to 20 individuals at any given time.

On September 9, 2013, Senate Bill (SB) 585 was signed by Governor Brown which clarified that services provided under Laura's Law may be provided pursuant to the procedures specified in the MHSA. Upon approval of SB 585, DMH began an analysis of Laura's Law, and the legal, clinical, programmatic, and fiscal processes required to effectively proceed with full implementation. The analysis was guided by DMH, with consultation from experts and community input from a broad range of involved agencies and stakeholders.

Successful and full implementation of this program is contingent upon collaboration and provision of significant resources from the courts, County Counsel, and Public Defender.

DMH will return to your Board for the approval of the contracted AOT-LA FSP providers following the completion of its solicitation process.

## **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

These actions will expand capacity of DMH's AOT Program and will give DMH the opportunity to fully implement Laura's Law in Los Angeles County.

## **CONCLUSION**

The Honorable Board of Supervisors

11/18/2014

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DMH will need three original executed resolutions. It is requested that the Executive Officer of the Board notify DMH Contracts Development and Administration at (213) 738-4684 when the documents are available.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mg Southard". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

MARVIN J. SOUTHARD, D.S.W.

Director of Mental Health

MJS:RS:MM:RK:rc

Enclosures

c: Chief Executive Officer  
County Counsel  
Executive Office, Board of Supervisors  
Chairperson, Mental Health Commission

**RESOLUTION OF  
THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES**

**FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF "LAURA'S LAW" (ASSEMBLY BILL 1421):  
"ASSISTED OUTPATIENT TREATMENT" IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY**

WHEREAS, the State of California has enacted the "Assisted Outpatient Treatment Demonstration Project Act of 2002", known as Laura's Law, effective January 1, 2003 (Assembly Bill (AB) 1421, Chapter 1017, Stats. 2002); and

WHEREAS, this legislation regulates designated assisted outpatient treatment services, which counties may choose to provide their residents who meet specified criteria; and

WHEREAS, counties choosing to implement Laura's Law must commit that no voluntary mental health program serving adults and no children's mental health program may be reduced as a result of the implementation of this program; and

WHEREAS, funding for assisted outpatient treatment services was included in the Mental Health Services Act Three-Year Program and Expenditure Plan adopted by the Board of Supervisors on July 15, 2014.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED ACCORDINGLY BY THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS THAT:

1. The Assisted Outpatient Treatment Demonstration Project Act of 2002, known as Laura's Law, is operative in Los Angeles County.
2. The Board of Supervisors finds that no voluntary mental health program serving adults and no children's mental health program may be reduced as a result of the expansion of Assisted Outpatient Treatment in Los Angeles County.

The foregoing Resolution was adopted on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2014 by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, and ex officio the governing body of all other special assessment and taxing districts, agencies and authorities, for which said Board so acts.



By *Don Krabe*  
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

Attest:  
SACHI HAMAI, Executive Officer  
Board of Supervisors of the  
County of Los Angeles

By *Ante*  
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

MARK J. SALADINO  
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COUNSEL

By *Stephen J. Reagan*  
Principal Deputy County Counsel

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES - DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH  
OFFICE OF THE MEDICAL DIRECTOR

ATTACHMENT II

ASSISTED OUTPATIENT TREATMENT - LOS ANGELES

STAFFING LIST

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST II	8697	1.0
COMMUNITY WORKER II	8103	2.0
HEALTH PROGRAM ANALYST II	4729	1.0
INTERMEDIATE TYPIST CLERK	2214	2.0
MANAGEMENT ANALYST	1848	1.0
MEDICAL CASE WORKER II	9002	2.0
MH CLINICAL SUPERVISOR	9038	2.0
MH COUNSELOR RN	5278	1.0
PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER II	9035	4.0
PSYCHIATRIC TECHNICIAN II	8162	1.0
STAFF ASSISTANT II	0913	1.0
Total:		18.0



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BOARD OF  
SUPERVISORS  
OFFICIAL COPY

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

**REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT**

**DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH**

DEPT'S. NO. 435

November 4, 2014

**AUDITOR-CONTROLLER:**

THE FOLLOWING APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT IS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THIS DEPARTMENT. PLEASE CONFIRM THE ACCOUNTING ENTRIES AND AVAILABLE BALANCES AND FORWARD TO THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR HIS RECOMMENDATION OR ACTION.

**ADJUSTMENT REQUESTED AND REASONS THEREFOR**

**FY 2014-15**

**4 - VOTES**

**SOURCES**

**USES**

See Attachment

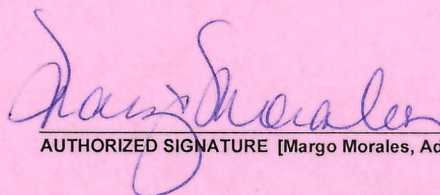
**SOURCES TOTAL: \$ 3,238,000**

**USES TOTAL: \$ 3,238,000**

**JUSTIFICATION**

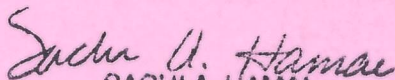
This adjustment is requested to increase the appropriation for Salaries & Employee Benefits, Services & Supplies and Capital Assets to provide the additional spending authority for the implementation of Assembly Bill 1421 "Laura's Law" Assisted Outpatient Treatment Services. The appropriation adjustment is fully funded by State Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) revenue. There is no impact on net County cost.

**ADOPTED**  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

  
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE [Margo Morales, Administrative Deputy]

BOARD OF SUPERVISOR'S APPROVAL (AS REQUESTED/REVISED)

**# 13 NOV 25 2014**

  
SACHIN A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

REFERRED TO THE CHIEF  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER FOR ---

☐

ACTION

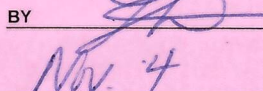
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RECOMMENDATION

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER

BY

B.A. NO. 050

  
Nov 4 20 14

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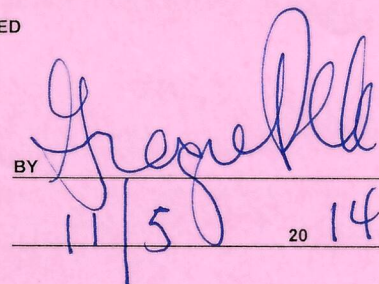
APPROVED AS REQUESTED

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APPROVED AS REVISED

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

BY

  
11/5 20 14



REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH

FY 2014-15  
4 - VOTES

SOURCES:

Mental Health Services Act-Prop. 63 BT1-3047 Committed for Budget Uncertainties Decrease Obligated Fund Balance	\$1,619,000
Department of Mental Health A01-MH-96-9911-20500 Operating Transfers in Increase Revenue	\$1,619,000

USES:

Mental Health Services Act-Prop. 63 BT1-MH-6100-41189 Other Financing Uses Increase Appropriation	\$1,619,000
Department of Mental Health A01-MH-1000-20500 Salaries & Employee Benefits Increase Appropriation	\$1,153,000
Department of Mental Health A01-MH-2000-20500 Services & Supplies Increase Appropriation	\$ 366,000
Department of Mental Health A01-MH-6030-20500 Capital Assets - Equipment Increase Appropriation	\$ 100,000

TOTAL SOURCES: \$ 3,238,000

TOTAL USES: \$3,238,000

**ADOPTED**  
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

**# 13 NOV 25 2014**

*Sachi A. Hamai*  
SACHI A. HAMAI  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

BA # 050

*AS 11/4/14*