



**Contra
Costa
County**

To: Board of Supervisors

From: FAMILY & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Date: July 11, 2017

Subject: Assisted Outpatient Treatment (Laura's Law) Update Report

RECOMMENDATION(S):

ACCEPT the report from the Health Services Department on the first 11 months of Laura's Law - Assisted Outpatient Treatment implementation for the period February through December 2016, as recommended by the Family and Human Services Committee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

BACKGROUND:

AOT Historical Information

The Assisted Outpatient Treatment Demonstration Project Act (AB 1421), known as Laura's Law, was signed into California law in 2002 and is authorized until January 1, 2017. Laura's Law is named after a 19 year old woman working at a Nevada County mental health clinic. She was one of three individuals who died after a shooting by a psychotic individual who had not engaged in treatment.

AB 1421 allows court-ordered intensive outpatient treatment called Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) for a clearly defined set of individuals that must meet specific criteria.

☒ APPROVE

☐ OTHER

☒ RECOMMENDATION OF CNTY

☐ RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD

ADMINISTRATOR

COMMITTEE

Action of Board On: **07/11/2017** ☒ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER

Clerks Notes:

VOTE OF SUPERVISORS

AYE: John Gioia, District I Supervisor

Candace Andersen, District II
Supervisor

Diane Burgis, District III Supervisor

Karen Mitchoff, District IV
Supervisor

Federal D. Glover, District V
Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: July 11, 2017

David Twa, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: Stephanie Mello, Deputy

Contact: Enid Mendoza, (925)
335-1039

cc:

AB 1421 also specifies which individuals may request the County Mental Health Director to file a petition with the superior court for a hearing to determine if the person should be court ordered to receive the services specified under the law. The County Mental Health Director or his licensed designee is required to perform a clinical investigation, and if the request is confirmed, to file a petition to the Court for AOT.

If the court finds that the individual meets the statutory criteria, the recipient will be provided intensive community treatment services and supervision by a multidisciplinary team of mental health professionals with staff-to-client ratios of not more than 1 to 10. Treatment is to be client-directed and employ psychosocial rehabilitation and recovery principles. The law specifies various rights of the person who is subject of a Laura's Law petition as well as due process hearing rights.

If a person refuses treatment under AOT, treatment cannot be forced. The Court orders meeting with the treatment team to gain cooperation and can authorize a 72 hour hospitalization to gain cooperation. A Laura's Law petition does not allow for involuntary medication.

AB 1421 requires that a county Board of Supervisors adopt Laura's Law by resolution to

authorize the legislation within that county. AB 1421 also requires the Board of Supervisors to make a finding that no voluntary mental health program serving adults or children would be reduced as a result of implementation.

At its June 3, 2013 meeting, the Legislation Committee requested that this matter be referred to the Family and Human Services Committee (F&HS) for consideration of whether to develop a program in the Behavioral Health Division of the Health Services Department that would implement assisted outpatient treatment options here in Contra Costa County.

On July 9, 2013, the Board of Supervisors referred the matter to F&HS for consideration. F&HS received reports on the implementation of Laura's Law on October 16, 2013 and March 10, 2014, and on February 3, 2015 the Board accepted the recommendations to implement Laura's Law. In February 2016, Laura's Law was implemented and the Department provided F&HS with a 6-month implementation report on September 12, 2016 and a data report on the 6-month implementation on December 12, 2016. Both reports were accepted by the Board on September 27, 2016 and December 20, 2016, respectively.

BACKGROUND: (CONT'D)

Update and Report on AOT Implementation

In an effort to maintain ongoing communications with F&HS and the Board, the Health Services Department, in partnership with Resource Development Associates, presented to F&HS at their May 22, 2017 meeting the attached 2017 report and summary for the California Department of Health Care Services. This report covers the County's first 11 months (February - December 2016) of Laura's Law AOT implementation. The Department plans to return to F&HS and the BOS later in the year, likely in September or October, to provide implementation data for the period July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017.

CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

The Board will not accept the report on the first 11 months of implementation.

ATTACHMENTS

2017 DHCS AOT Report Summary

2017 DHCS AOT Full Report