

The Revenue Stability Workgroup is charged with assessing year-over-year fluctuations in tax revenues generated by the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) and develop a reliable strategy for short- and long-term fiscal stability. A report of the workgroup's recommendations will be submitted to the Legislature and Governor by June 30, 2025.

The workgroup is required by statute to:

1. Develop and recommend solutions to **reduce BHSA revenue volatility**
2. Propose appropriate prudent reserve levels to **support the sustainability of county programs and services.**¹

The goal of the workgroup is to build a proposal to reduce revenue volatility and support the sustainability of BHSA programs. The workgroup will evaluate key aspects of the submitted proposals in Figure 1 below, and recommend a proposal that considers the following elements:

1. Base Funding Level;
2. Length of Funding Cycle;
3. Establishing a State Revenue Stabilization Account;
4. Revenue Stabilization Account Transfers; and
5. Local Prudent Reserve Requirements

¹ WIC § 5892.3

Figure 1. Overview of Submitted Proposals

| Proposal Overview | Reduces Volatility | Supports Sustainability |
|--|---|---|
| <p>Proposal 1: <i>Trailing 3-year weighted average</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Establishes fixed BHSA allocation amount updated every 3 years. State level reserve funded with BHSF revenue in excess of allocation amount and capped at \$2 billion. » Weighting is based on previous three fiscal years, with more weight on the most recent years. » If the reserve balance exceeds the cap, the excess funds will be allocated to counties over the next three-year period. » The state is still able to access and distribute reserve funds in down years even if the \$2B cap is not met. | <p>Yes, significantly reduces revenue volatility.</p> | <p>Yes. Proposal results in relatively rapid increase in reserve funds. Once \$2 billion cap is exceeded, funds distributed to counties over three years.</p> |
| <p>Proposal 2: <i>Trailing 5-year weighted average</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » State level stabilization account created to stabilize revenues in down years. Transfers to the account occur when the estimated revenue for the following fiscal year is 10% or more greater than the trailing five-year revenue average. » Counties can tap the reserve when revenues are 5% or more below the trailing five-year average. » SCO allocates 1/12th of monthly revenue excess to fund the Revenue Stability Account. » Reserve cap is set at 3X trailing five-year spending average, which is very high. Could safely lower cap and distribute excess balances to counties. | <p>Yes, more volatility reduction than Proposal #1 due to longer trailing average period.</p> | <p>Yes, though longer trailing average period and high reserve cap raise potential for program funding persistently lagging behind annual revenues.</p> |

| Proposal Overview | Reduces Volatility | Supports Sustainability |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Proposal 3: <i>Trailing 5-year average for base funding</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> » Local reserve. » Base funding level based on a five-year trailing average. Plans developed according to base funding level. » Counties have broad discretion to use funds to meet local needs when revenue is 10% or higher than the base level. » Counties utilize discretionary reserves in down years. | <p>Large reduction in base funding volatility only. No reduction in overall revenue volatility.</p> | <p>Depends on how counties manage revenues received above base funding levels.</p> |

Figure 2. Proposal 1: Impact on Revenue Stability

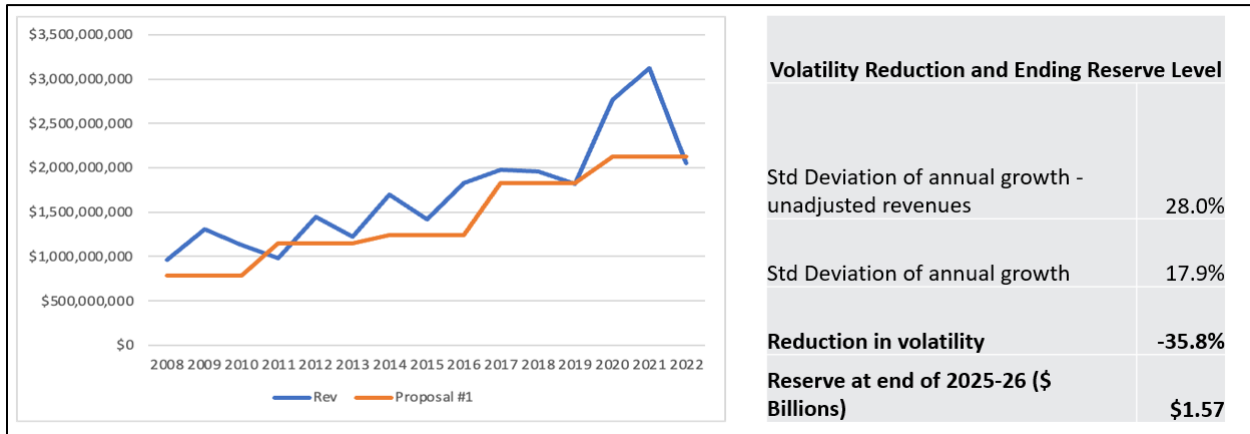


Figure 3. Proposal 2: Impact on Revenue Stability

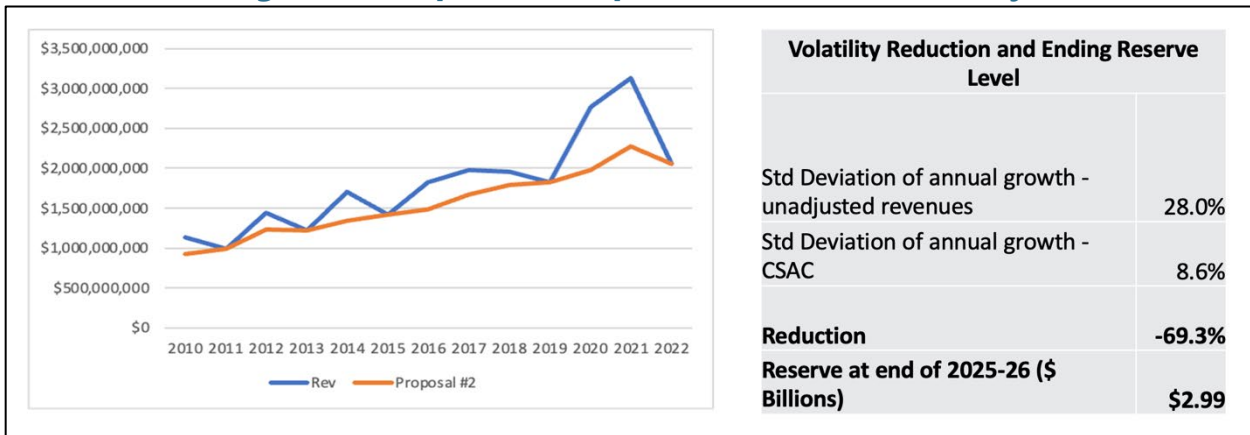


Figure 4. Proposal 3: Impact on Revenue Stability

