

**California Behavioral Health Planning Council
Legislation and Public Policy Committee
Meeting Summary**

Wednesday, April 17, 2024
1:30 pm to 5:00 pm
Holiday Inn Sacramento Downtown Arena
300 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
Granada/Hermosa Room

Members Present:

Barbara Mitchell, Chairperson	Javier Moreno, Chair-Elect	
Monica Caffey	Elizabeth Oseguera*	Deborah Starkey
Erin Franco	Sarah Poss	Tony Vartan
Ian Kemmer	Marina Rangel	Susan Wilson
Steve Leoni*	Danielle Sena	Uma Zykovsky
Catherine Moore	Karrie Sequeira	
Noel O'Neill	Daphne Shaw	

*=Virtual Attendance

Meeting Commenced at 1:30 p.m.

Item #1	October 2023 and January 2024 Meeting Minutes
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The committee members had an opportunity to review the October 2023 and January 2024 meeting minutes. There was a consensus to accept both meeting minutes.

Item #2	Discussion of Proposition 1
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Chairperson, Barbara Mitchell, led a discussion with all committee members on the passage of Proposition 1, also known as the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA). Through the discussions, members identified concerns and areas the Council should be involved with. They highlighted that there is an opportunity to provide input on the definitions of homeless, at-risk of homeless, chronic homelessness, veteran, recovery housing, and encampments. Members also expressed concerns about the structure of

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Full Service Partnerships (FSP) compared to the original intent of the Mental Health Services Act. The development of the FSP regulations was identified as another possible area to provide input. Members expressed a desire for the Council to monitor and promote transparency and accountability by the State for the stakeholder process. There was a consensus that the Council should have an active role in facilitating effective stakeholder input with consumers and family members, as well as unserved or underserved communities. Additionally, they would like the Council to request an assessment of the impact of the act including a financial analysis, equity analysis, impact on current providers, and impact on current services. The results would be monitored by the Council and used to advise the Department of Health Care Services on gaps due to the expansion of the population covered without an increase in funding. Lastly, the committee expressed the necessity of a partnership with the CA Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards & Commissions (CALBHB/C) to ensure they have what they need to fulfill their responsibilities.

Susan Wilson made a motion to send a letter with the concerns the Council discussed to the Department of Health Care Services, the Department of Housing and Community Development, and CalVet. The motion was seconded by Monica Caffey. Erin Franco abstained. The motion passed.

Item #3 Public Comment

Kristen Barlow from the California Hospital Association (CHA) shared that they are sponsoring AB 1316 authored by Assemblymember Irwin. She stated the bill would codify what CHA understands to be the State's intent to make it clear once and for all that the Medi-Cal managed care plans should be responsible for all the funding needed to take care of a person who has a psychiatric crisis. The bill also addresses a barrier that CHA has seen in emergency rooms, where the doctors feel like they're being asked by their local providers or counties to treat people in a psychiatric crisis differently from every other type of medical emergency, specifically, in trying to get them into psychiatric treatment immediately.

Item #4 CBHPC Policy Platform

Chairperson, Barbara Mitchell, led a discussion with all committee members on proposed changes to the Council's Policy Platform. The proposed edits included removing outdated language and adding a Substance Use Disorder section. In addition to the proposed changes, members requested other minor edits, the replacement of

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“mental health” with “behavioral health” throughout the document, and the inclusion of the Behavioral Health Services Act implementation under the Overarching Behavioral Health Principles.

Noel O'Neill made a motion to adopt the Policy Platform with the edits discussed. Susan Wilson seconded the motion. Steve Leoni and Sarah Poss abstained. The motion passed.

Item #5 2024 Legislation and Public Policy Committee Goals

Committee members reviewed the goals they identified at the January 2023 committee meeting which are:

- To become more relevant and inform important legislation during the development stage.
- To review the regulations being developed to implement new legislation and provide input/comment.
- To inform stakeholders about the regulations being developed and urge them to advocate.
- To work with the Legislature to develop legislation to address gaps identified by the Council.
 - Find a champion/organization to partner with and co-sponsor legislation.
- For members to become proficient in the legislative process and clearly understand opportunities for advocacy.
- To look outside the box at issues affecting the behavioral health of low-income individuals.

Chairperson, Barbara Mitchell, led a discussion with all committee members to determine any revisions to the goals. Through the discussion members decided to add:

- To participate in forums to educate and obtain input from stakeholders.
- To advocate for the voice of consumers, family members and persons from unserved or underserved groups to be heard throughout the stakeholder process.

Catherine Moore made a motion to adopt the committee goals with the modifications identified. Danielle Sena seconded the motion. Jason L. Bradley abstained. The motion passed.

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Item #6 Senate Bill 1082

Theresa Comstock, Executive Director, CA Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards & Commissions provided an overview of Senate Bill 1082, which would require the Department of Public Health to develop and implement an Augmented Residential Care Facility plan. Members expressed the need for more details in the legislation and expressed a desire to provide recommendations as the language continues to be developed.

Catherine Moore made a motion to support AB 1082 in concept. The motion was seconded by Susan Wilson. Stephanie Blake, Ian Kemmer, Danielle Sena, Tony Vartan, and Sarah Poss abstained. The motion passed.

Item #7 Consent Agenda

Naomi Ramirez, CBHPC Chief of Operations, reviewed the bills listed on the Consent Agenda and the recommended position, which included: to support Assembly Bill (AB) 1470, AB 2411, AB 2995, and Senate Bill (SB) 1339 from the consent agenda.

Susan Wilson made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the removal of AB 1470, AB 2411, and SB 1339. Noel O'Neill seconded the motion. Erin Franco, Sarah Poss, and Karrie Sequeira abstained. The motion passed.

Item #8 Review of Pending Legislation

Chairperson, Barbara Mitchell facilitated a discussion of the bills on the Pending Legislative Positions list with all members. The committee prioritized discussing AB 1907, AB 2207, AB 2142, AB 2711, AB 2703, and SB 1397.

Noel O'Neill made a motion to oppose AB 2411. He stated that while he supports the idea it would be very challenging to fulfill. The motion was seconded by Daphne Shaw. Tony Vartan, Uma Zykofsky, Sarah Poss, Karrie Sequeira, and Liz Oseguera. The motion passed.

Daphne Shaw made a motion to oppose SB 1238. The motion was seconded by Danielle Sena. Catherine Moore voted no. Marina Rangel, Sarah Poss, and Karrie Sequeira abstained. The motion passed.

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Susan Wilson made a motion to watch AB 1907. The motion was seconded by Catherine Moore. The motion passed.

Erin Franco made a motion to support AB 2711. The motion was seconded by Karrie Sequeira. The motion passed.

Tony Vartan made a motion to support AB 2119. The motion was seconded by Danielle Sena. The motion passed.

Marina Rangel made a motion to oppose AB 2142. The motion was seconded by Susan. Monica Caffey, Erin Franco, Ian Kemmer, Steve Leoni, Danielle Sena, Deborah Starkey, Tony Vartan, and Karrie Sequeira voted no. Stephanie Blake, Barbara Mitchell, Javier Moreno, Noel O'Neill, Daphne Shaw, Uma Zykovsky, Sarah Poss, and Liz Oseguera abstained. The motion failed.

Item #9	Public Comment
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There was no public comment.