

6th Assembly District, Sacramento County

AB 1360 – Hope California Act

SUMMARY

AB 1360 creates voluntary county pilot programs to address gaps in the current criminal justice and rehabilitation systems for those suffering from substance use disorder (SUD), cycling in and out of jails with no clear path to successful treatment nor reentry.

The 4 county, 2 year pilot program in **Sacramento**, **San Joaquin**, **Santa Clara**, and **Yolo** counties allows courts to provide temporary confined drug treatment (in lieu of jail or prison) for those that commit felonies due to their drug addiction. This bill allows named counties to develop wrap-around services in addition to record expungement for patients who complete treatment.

BACKGROUND

Incarcerated diagnosed with SUD are the fastest growing population in our county jail and state prison systems.

According to NIH and the National Institute for Drug Abuse (NIDA), an estimated 65% percent of the United States prison and jail populations have an active SUD. Another 20% percent did not meet the official criteria for a SUD, but were under the influence of drugs or alcohol at the time of the crime. Furthermore, economic and societal costs of untreated substance abuse in the U.S. now exceed \$700 billion.

The LAO report stated that in 2016-2017, SUD was the most in demand rehab service needed, yet only 23% of the rehabilitation budget was used for substance use. Meanwhile, only 3% of CDCRs total budget is spent on rehabilitation.

PROBLEM

The state's jails and prisons have failed to adequately support people with SUD. For many individuals suffering from this disease, residential and professional evidence-based treatment programs are the most effective option. Our efforts in CA in treating those who suffer from SUDs, many of whom are simultaneously suffering from mental health issues or experiencing homelessness, have been unsuccessful.

SOLUTION

AB 1360 provides 4 counties in consultation with the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM), county drug treatment providers, and other community stakeholders another treatment option for individuals suffering from SUD that commit repeat felonies due to their addiction. The program is voluntary and includes wrap-around services, and if completed, patients would have their records expunged and sealed.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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