



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President

Albert M. Senella

Tarzana Treatment Centers, Inc.
Fresno, Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Mono,
Los Angeles, San Benito, Riverside,
San Bernardino, Santa Barbara,
San Luis Obispo, Tulare and Ventura
Counties

Vice President

Vitka Eisen, MSW, Ed. D.

HealthRIGHT 360
Kings, Los Angeles, Madera,
Riverside, San Francisco,
and Sutter Counties

Secretary

Shawn Jenkins

WestCare California
Butte, San Joaquin, Merced, Madera
Fresno, Kings, Kern, Tuolumne, Solano,
Sacramento and San Luis Obispo
Counties

Treasurer

Shirley Summers

Behavioral Health Services, Inc.
Los Angeles, Orange Counties

BOARD MEMBERS

Brett Andrews

PRC-Baker Places
San Francisco County

Jack Bernstein

CRI-HELP, Inc.
Los Angeles County

Doug Bond

Amity Foundation
Amador, San Joaquin, Ventura, Kings,
Fresno, Kern, Riverside, San Luis Obispo,
Monterey, Los Angeles, Madera,
San Bernardino, and San Diego Counties

Deena Duncan

Volunteers of America
Los Angeles County

Alice Gleghorn

Phoenix Houses of California, Inc.
Kings, Los Angeles, Madera, Orange,
San Bernardino, San Diego, and Ventura
Counties

Javier Moreno

Aegis Treatment Centers
Butte, El Dorado, Fresno, Humboldt,
Kern, Los Angeles, Merced, Nevada,
Placer, San Bernardino, San Joaquin,
San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Shasta
Stanislaus, Ventura, and Yuba Counties

Mark Hickman

Western Pacific Med Corp
Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura Counties

Luis Montes

Narcotics Prevention Association Inc.
Los Angeles County

Juan Navarro

Los Angeles Centers for Alcohol & Drug
Abuse Los Angeles County

Sushma Taylor, Ph.D.

Center Point, Inc.
Marin, Sonoma, Napa, Contra Costa,
Alameda, Solano, Del Norte, Lassen,
Tuolumne, San Joaquin, and Amador

Elvia Torres

SPIRITT Family Services
Los Angeles County

In memoriam

April 25, 2023

Hon Chris Holden, Chair
California Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O St, Room 5650
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Assemblymember Chris Holden:

RE: AB 1360 (McCarty) Hope California: Secured Residential Treatment Pilot Program. OPPOSE

The California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives, Inc. (CAADPE), is opposed to **AB 1360 Hope California: Secured Residential Treatment Program**. This bill would authorize the Counties of Sacramento and Yolo to offer secured residential treatment pilot programs, known as Hope California, for individuals suffering from substance use disorders (SUDs) who have been convicted of qualifying drug-motivated felony crimes, as specified. AB 1360 is currently in Assembly Appropriations Committee awaiting a hearing.

AB 1360 would create a program allowing judges to sentence people convicted of "drug-motivated crimes" to a locked facility, described as a "Secured Residential Treatment Program." It does not say where the funding would come from, describe the conditions of the locked facility, or describe the qualifications of those who would be responsible for the treatment or security aspects of these jail-like facilities.

We assume that the author and proponents are well-intentioned. However, research strongly suggests that this approach would be not be effective or fiscally responsible. Research finds that coerced treatment is much more expensive than voluntary treatment, but has no demonstrable benefit in terms of treatment outcomes when compared to voluntary treatment. Studies also suggest that forced treatment makes individuals less trustful of substance use disorder (SUD) treatment, and therefore less likely to engage SUD treatment or other medical services in the future.



Ultimately, this bill would waste resources that could be better invested in voluntary services in the community. The costs for prosecutors, defense attorneys, judges, bailiffs, court staff, and whatever entity would be responsible for guarding people within the secure facility would likely take the lion's share of any funding allocated to this program- -funding that should be going to community based treatment providers. Further, AB 1542 might actually increase the length of time people are under supervision of courts, or in jail, because people who do not complete treatment in the locked facility could be resentenced to incarceration.

Instead of establishing an expensive, ineffective and potentially harmful coerced treatment program in a jail-like setting, we recommend that state and local funds prioritize expanding access to evidence-based, voluntary substance use disorder treatment and harm reduction services, permanent supportive housing, and access to other health and social services.

CAADPE is a professional association of community-based nonprofit alcohol recovery and other SUD treatment agency executives advocating for quality patient care. Its members provide SUD services at over 300 sites throughout the state and constitute the infrastructure of the state's publicly funded substance use disorder treatment network.

For these reasons, among others, we respectfully oppose AB 1542 (McCarty) and urge a NO vote when AB 1360 is heard in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robb Layne", is written in a cursive style.

Robb Layne
CAADPE
Executive Director

cc: Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Hon Kevin McCarty, AD 6